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News Conference on SS-20's, INF Treaty

LD2908184588 Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Volgograd August 26 TASS—By TASS special correspondent Vladimir Isachenkov:

Experience gained during the realization of the Soviet-American INF Treaty will play a positive role as the disarmament process makes further headway, a Soviet deputy foreign minister said today.

Viktor Komplektov was speaking at a news conference here following the destruction of three RSD-10 missiles, which are known in the West as SS-20's, by explosion on a testing range at Kapustin Yar outside Volgograd Sunday.

"Just recently, few people believed in the possibility of nuclear disarmament. Today, delivering the world from weapons of mass annihilation is becoming a quite realistic task which can and must be fulfilled, if we are to abide by new political thinking," Komplektov said.

"The issues of halving Soviet and American strategic nuclear arsenals with strict adherence to the ABM Treaty, signing as soon as possible a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons, putting an end to nuclear testing and reducing armed forces and conventional arms are moving to the phase of practical solutions," the Soviet diplomat added.

He said the INF Treaty had been made possible by extensive support from the entire world community, in particular nations taking part in the disarmament conference in Geneva.

Its representatives led by conference Secretary-General Miljan Komatina yesterday visited the Kapustin Yar testing range to watch the missile elimination procedure.

Lieutenant-General Igor Sergeyev, first deputy chief of staff of the Strategic Missile Forces, told the news conference that a total of 22 intermediate-range missiles, including 13 RSD-10's, and 56 shorter-range ones had been destroyed in this country by today.

Solid-fuel RSD-10's are eliminated by exploding and launching, while liquid-fuel R-12 and R-14 shorter-range missiles go to remelting furnaces after being ridden of their fuel.

Speaking at the same news conference, Colonel Stanislav Shemyakin, Soviet deputy representative to the Soviet-American Special Verification Commission, announced the completion of so-called baseline inspections under the INF Treaty, which provides for unprecedented measures to monitor its fulfilment.

The inspections have been conducted to check the whereabouts, number and classes of missiles subject to elimination.

U.S. inspectors have been to 117 facilities in the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia, while their Soviet colleagues have visited 31 facilities in the United States and West European countries.

"The sides have voiced no complaints about any deviations from the treaty or its violations," Colonel Shemyakin said.

INF Treaty, Asia-Pacific Security Linked

OW2908194188 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 25 Aug 88

[(Ulsky) commentary: "Destruction of Missiles"]

[Text] Dear listeners: Now let us take a look at an urgent international issue. The first batch of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles has been destroyed in accordance with the provisions of the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty. (Ulsky), a Soviet journalist on international affairs, writes in this connection:

It should be noted that this treaty not only covers Europe but extends to the Asia-Pacific region as well, as proposed by the Soviet Union. Last year our country put forward this proposal in view of the wishes of a number of Asian countries. Now we are seeing the tangible results of this proposal.

This is the first time in history that mass destruction weapons have been destroyed. Had these weapons been used, they would have caused irreparable damage to the cause of security in Europe, Asia, and all other parts of the world. The historical significance of this fact for the world is inestimable.

We would like to point out that this event is of special significance for the Asia-Pacific region. In that region there has been a continuous aggravation of military danger, and the main reason for this is no secret: More and more nuclear weapons have been stockpiled on warships of the U.S. 7th Fleet and on military bases.

At the same time, the struggle for security in the Asia-Pacific region has been surging ahead. It can be said that the Rarotonga Treaty declaring the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone is the first result of this struggle. Significantly, the two big nuclear powers in Asia, the Soviet Union and China, have signed an additional protocol to the treaty. The big Western nuclear powers, however, have refused to follow this example. The destruction of the first batch of nuclear missiles under the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty actually started the process of nuclear disarmament in the Asia-Pacific region. Let us recall the process leading to the signing of this treaty. In

his Vladivostok speech 2 years ago, Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, put forward a general program for the strengthening of security and the development of cooperation in Asia and the Pacific [words indistinct].

The beginning of destruction of intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missiles can be viewed as a real and specific step toward the building of a nuclear-free and nonviolent world. This step, we hope, will not be the last one.

All this shows that Asians now feel safer than before. This is not only because intermediate- and shorter-range missiles have been destroyed in the Asia-Pacific region but because, significantly, Western Asia has freed itself from the threat of U.S. missiles deployed in Europe that could reach the Persian Gulf. More importantly, it proves that weapons can be destroyed as well as manufactured.

We would like to repeat here that the weapons destroyed are mass destruction weapons. This means that offensive strategic weapons, which constitute the greatest threat to peace, are by no means untouchable and that they also can eventually be destroyed. Moreover, it is possible to considerably reduce such weapons at the present stage. As people know, the Soviet Union and the United States are holding talks on a 50-percent reduction of these most dangerous weapons. We are making every possible effort to achieve success in these talks.

As for the Asia-Pacific region, where a considerable number of strategic nuclear weapons are concentrated, the success of the talks will mean a big new step away from military danger. Meanwhile, the atmosphere brought about under the impact of the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty is also conducive to solving regional conflicts.

Many regional conflicts have occurred in the Asia-Pacific region. This is evident from the Geneva agreement to mediate the Afghan problem, the launching of the talks on the Cambodian issue, and the efforts to bring the Iran-Iraq war to an end.

Of course, the people of the countries concerned are benefiting most from the mediation of regional conflicts. Other Asians, including many Chinese people living near areas affected by regional conflicts, long for their elimination. In this regard, it is important to take mutual benefit and the principle of compromise into consideration. It was this principle which contributed to the signing of the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty.

It goes without saying that implementation of the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty plays a positive role in the Asia-Pacific region. This treaty has given a stimulus to making still greater achievements in safeguarding security in the Asia-Pacific region. All countries in the Asia-Pacific region and their people must make further efforts to strengthen, not weaken, this stimulus.

Paper Responds to Opposition to Disarmament
PM2908140588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 First Edition p 3

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA observer Manki Ponomarev answers reader's letter under the rubric "Reader Answered by International Observer": "We Must Not Think in the Old Way"—first two paragraphs are editorial introduction and reader's letter]

[Text] Among many others, the mail brought to the editorial office included a letter from G.M. Alekseyeva in Khabarovsk. She writes, in particular:

"I am categorically opposed to disarmament. I believe that we are making a fatal mistake by eliminating some of our missiles. The Americans are in no hurry to destroy their own. They are only carrying out inspections. We too are carrying out inspections, but where is the sense in all this? If there has to be disarmament, it should be carried out solely on the basis of a missile for a missile. It seems that America is simply deceiving us, feeding us with promises and inspections, and we are just sitting back and letting everything happen. Where is our sense of responsibility to the country, the people, and future generations?"

To be honest, Galina Mikhaylovna, your letter surprised me. No, not by its sharp tone—we receive a considerable number of angry letters on various problems, including international ones. What did seem strange was your rejection of the idea of disarmament and what appeared to me to be rather excessively peremptory, categorical judgments on very serious issues.

My first reaction upon reading your letter was to reply to you personally and try to explain why I feel you are wrong. But on mature reflection I decided to conduct the discussion in the newspaper. This is because, judging by the editorial mail, your views are shared to varying degrees by other readers of ours. Your letter, however, expresses these views particularly clearly.

So, Galina Mikhaylovna, where are you right and where, to all appearances, are you profoundly mistaken? You are right with regard to the concern for the future of your country and people which runs through every line of your letter. This is an understandable, natural feeling for any Soviet person to have. You are also right, of course, to say that international problems and the problems of security and disarmament must be approached with a very great sense of responsibility. Any complacency or attempts to indulge in wishful thinking are intolerable in this respect.

But beyond that... Beyond that your arguments are no longer based on the hard facts of reality but on the shaky ground of conjecture and delusion.

You are worried that the Soviet Union has to destroy more intermediate- and shorter-range missiles than the United States? But the whole point is that we have more of them. When the treaty was signed, the Soviet Union had 826 intermediate-range missiles and 926 shorter-range missiles, while the United States had 689 and 170 respectively. If we were to take the course you suggest—a missile for a missile—we would end up with all the U.S. missiles destroyed and us still with a fair number of them. Clearly, the United States would never have agreed to this approach and so the cause of nuclear disarmament would have remained frozen at a standstill.

Anyway, it is not a question of which side destroys more missiles—we or the Americans. The main thing is that, as a result of implementing the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, in a matter of 3 years all—and I emphasize all—intermediate- and shorter-range missiles will have been destroyed on both sides. There will be none left either in the Soviet Union or in the United States. So in this we will be equal. Not a missile for a missile, but a zero for a zero.

You are confused that we have already begun to destroy our missiles while the Americans have not? Yes, it is true that the first four Soviet shorter-range missiles (OTR-22) were blown up in Saryozek on 1 August. But all in all some 70 Soviet missiles have been destroyed so far, including dummy missiles, as well as approximately 40 launch installations. But Washington has announced that the practical elimination of U.S. missiles will begin 8 September. This time difference is explained in exactly the same way—the Soviet Union has more missiles to be eliminated than the United States and so more time is required for the elimination process.

So you think the Americans are deceiving us by reducing everything to inspections? But the whole system of inspections has been developed precisely in order to prevent any deception and prevent either side from breaching any of the provisions of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. We have no less of an interest than the Americans in the strict verification stipulated by the treaty.

Yes, U.S. inspectors have visited several Soviet operational missile bases, auxiliary missile installations, missile elimination sites, launch installations, and auxiliary equipment and monitored the nonproduction of missiles at Soviet manufacturing plants. But Soviet inspectors are doing exactly the same. They have visited U.S. missile bases in a number of West European countries and other installations on U.S. territory—in particular, the Hercules plant in Utah where they make the components for Pershing-2 missiles. The inspectors' work will continue for many years yet. We must be sure that the signed treaty is being strictly observed and that no one is gaining any advantages.

So this is how the matter stands regarding Soviet and U.S. missiles. I would like to stress once again that on-site inspection is not deception in place of disarmament but verification to ensure that there can be no such deception. Remember, even Reagan had to learn the Russian proverb "Trust, but verify." Note—a Russian proverb, not an American one.

But it was not your misconceptions regarding the questions of missile elimination and verification that compelled me to answer you, Galina Mikhaylovna, through this newspaper. Everything I have said above has already been said in the greatest detail in our press and so anyone who wishes to establish the truth will not find it very hard to do so. But what did alarm me was something else: your rejection of the idea of disarmament and the strong reproaches of irresponsibility and complacency.

No, in our age, with mankind's very existence under threat, we can no longer live on top of mountains of weapons. This does not increase security—it reduces it. Contradictions between states and the problems that arise between them cannot be solved by military means—their use is fraught with destruction. International contradictions and problems can and must be solved differently—by political means. This is the essence of the new political thinking that has guided the Soviet Union in recent years in its actions in the international arena.

There is no other reasonable choice, no other reasonable alternative. Either the assertion of the new political thinking, the elimination of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons—for which the Soviet Union is striving—and the creation of a comprehensive international security system, or the real threat of the destruction of all life on our planet. Some of the bellicose slogans—I can describe them as nothing else—contained in your letter can under no circumstances be justified.

The new political thinking and the new, essentially defensive Soviet military doctrine are a real manifestation of a great sense of responsibility for the fate of our people and the fate of peace. No, it is not complacency that prevails in the Soviet Armed Forces but a sober understanding of the situation and a desire to fully satisfy the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference requirement that all defense building in our country be oriented toward qualitative parameters—with regard to equipment, military science, and the composition of the Armed Forces. This requirement is law for our Army and Navy and for all military servicemen, who have a deep sense of responsibility for our future and the future of all peoples on earth.

CSCE Talks Resume in Vienna 29 Aug
LD2908113788 Moscow TASS in English 1115 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Vienna August 29 TASS—Today the meeting of states participtaing in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe resumed its work in Vienna after a three-day interval.

The main task of delegates from 33 European states, as well as the USA and Canada who used the just-ended pause for consultations with their governments, is to complete drafting the final document of the meeting which has been going on for about two years.

In the recent past representatives of Eastern and Western states repeatedly noted that now there were all prerequisites for completing the meeting with substantial and balanced results this autumn.

Reagan Greets 'Anticommunist League' Conference
LD2908173588 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 29 TASS—TASS political news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The report on the 21st conference of the "World Anticommunist League", which has just been held in the basement of the Geneva Hotel Penta did not appear on the first pages of leading newspapers of the West and the East, despite the fact that represented at this gathering were such mastodons of the cold war with the Soviets as John Singlaub, an American general, retired, and carrier CIA officer, such ghosts of the past as Nguyen Van Thieu, former head of the puppet Saigon regime, such odious figures of the butcher type as Adolfo Calero, ringleader of the Nicaraguan contras.

True, the "League" received a message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan himself, who, availing himself of the opportunity, reminded the die-hard public that his administration launched several important political intiatives to counter world communism, among them he certainly mentioned Washington's aid to the Afghan counter-revolution and the self-same contras.

And, nevertheless, had it not been for a powerful demonstration of Swiss democrats, who took to the streets of Geneva carrying slogans "Stop Fascism", "Anticommunist League Is War" and were dispersed by police only with the help of water cannon and tear gas, nobody would have paid attention to the voices from the hotel basement.

Is there a need to recall what they spoke about? The self-same rehash of the yesterday and the day before yesterday: "communist danger", "threat to Western democracy" and so on and so forth.

We mentioned these figures only with a view to putting several questions in the hope to receive, if not at once, respective answers to them.

The emphasis was made on an unofficial, private, nature of the "conference" held. And how to evaluate the participation in it of a whole number of deputies of Swiss canton and federal parliaments, specifically, the activity of Radical Deputy Genevieve Aubry, who, by the way, became the leader of the "League" at this reunion? Should it be assessed as an utterly private affair or as the bid to act almost on behalf of Swiss electors?

If the first is at issue, she should possibly renounce deputy powers so as not to be hampered in the future freely to team up with international fascism and terrorism. If the second, it is exactly electors-participants in the protest demonstration who pelted with bottles and stones the basement windows of the Hotel Penta.

And the last question. How can the bleak gathering of the "Anticommunist League" type beautify the peaceful landscape of democratic Switzerland? The more so that the extreme-right get together in Geneva not for the first time. Be it in Chile or Paraguay, it would not be as amazing.

We can be answered: The propaganda of racial hatred and fascism is not banned in Switzerland. So, it appears that freedom—yes but freedom inside out.

Concern Over French Cocom Violation Viewed
LD2908231488 Moscow International Service in French 1700 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Excerpts] A few days ago a Pentagon spokesman expressed some concern over an extremely serious affair of the transfer to the Soviet Union of strategically important technology for the construction of combat planes. Citing high-ranking U.S. Government officials, the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency reports that this involves France and the French company Forest-Line, a branch of Machines Francaises Lourdes. This company is suspected of illegally exporting to the USSR capital goods, which are apparently classified as sensitive technology, without Cocom authorization.

This affair, writes our observer Vsevolod Mikhaylov, goes back to last April, when the French secret services, following up on the Pentagon's suggestions, arrested four officials of the firm. At the same time an attempt was made to exploit the affair to exacerbate an anti-Soviet campaign at the height of the electoral campaign and on the eve of the presidential elections.

However, Paris did not go along with this, while the anti-Soviet hullabaloo went on and on, (?to say the least), and this was definitely not to the liking of certain Pentagon officials. By encouraging the overzealousness of French counterespionage, these U.S. officials now seem to be counting on the French intelligence service to

arouse another wave of spy fever and to teach a public lesson to certain French businessmen, who are a bit too daring, on who decides the Cocom rules. [pasage omitted]

In any case, there are several surprising aspects of the Forest-Line case, above all the persistence with which the Pentagon is demanding an exemplary punishment of those responsible and those who apparently violated Cocom rules. To my knowledge, France is not Louisiana, is not one of the U.S. states, and thus is not subject to federal law. Nonetheless, Washington feels it has the right to dictate to this country its trading partners and the goods to be sold or not sold. Worse still, the Pentagon is trying to interfere in purely internal French affairs, such as the French courts' investigation of the Forest-Line company's trading activity. [passage omitted]

West Declines Naval Exercise Invitation

PM2908120988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Colonel Yu. Soldatenko article under the rubric "Telegram With Commentary": "West Has Declined To Send Observers to Military Exercises"]

[Text] On 25 July 1988 the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent an official notification to the governments of the GDR, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Finland, the FRG, and Sweden. In it, it was stated:

"The Government of the USSR, displaying goodwill in resolving the question of confidence-building measures in the maritime areas surrounding Europe and in implementing the proposal advanced 11 January 1988 by Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers N.I. Ryzhkov during his visit to Sweden, hereby gives notification of the holding of an exercise 6-8 September 1988 by the naval forces of the USSR's Baltic Fleet under the leadership of the fleet commander, in the northeastern part of the Baltic Sea in an area south of parallel 59 degrees 36 minutes north and east of meridian 20 degrees east. Thirty-two warships and twenty-six planes and helicopters will be taking part in the exercise. The purpose of the exercise is to rehearse questions of the defense of the Soviet seaboard.

"The Soviet side invites two observers from your country to the period of the exercise's active phase."

Positive responses to the invitation of observers to the Baltic Fleet exercise have been received only from the GDR and Poland. The remaining countries have declined the invitation, veiling their refusal with various streamlined diplomatic formulations.

Thus, it is being asserted that the said Soviet initiative falls outside the framework of the Stockholm conference. Allusions have also been made to the fact that as yet "the procedure for exchanging observers at naval exercises has not been worked out," and that therefore the realization of this initiative will have to wait.

There is no acknowledgment here of the fact that the Soviet initiative bears the fundamentally new nature of a good example. Its realization would also help to remove the concern expressed by those same Baltic states and the public of these states and impart greater "transparency" to military activity, something the West has been calling for. In other words, this was an attempt to test in practice those confidence-building measures that are not yet in place but that we will ultimately arrive at.

As is known, for several years now the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries have repeatedly advanced proposals aimed at dispelling the many decades of mutual suspicion and mistrust concerning the military activity of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, of the USSR and the United States. A great contribution to easing international tension has been made by the states participating in the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe. However, the confidence-building measures formulated at it only permit the monitoring of ground forces' military activity. It is well known that it was the United States, whose naval forces operate practically in all oceans of the world, which in 1986 at the Stockholm conference impeded the extension of confidence-building measures to the naval forces of the participant states.

But is it right to remove naval forces from international negotiations under way on disarmament and security problems? The NATO bloc states assert that the risk of the outbreak of war is highest on land. This does not accord with today's realities in the world. On the oceans' expanses such a risk may be even greater than on dry land insofar as the world's oceans are a zone of immediate military contact between major naval groupings of the two military alliances.

To eliminate this risk is our common duty to the present and the future, and the USSR has taken a goodwill step toward this goal. One would like to hope that common sense will prevail and that responsive steps toward strengthening confidence will be forthcoming from the Western side.

Further on 23 Aug Gerasimov Press Briefing

PM2908181588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[G. Charodeyev report on 23 August Foreign Ministry press briefing: "Afghanistan: 1,518 Minefields Have Been Eliminated. From Our Correspondent at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] A routine briefing was held 23 August at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center for Soviet and foreign journalists conducted by G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Administration.

People in the Soviet Union, he said, are following with interest the first steps taken by the new Pakistani leadership. Its representatives are now stating their intention to help ensure peace and security in southwest Asia and conduct the country's policy in accordance with the principles of nonalignment. The present head of the Pakistani leadership, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, promised at a 21 August news conference that Pakistan will fulfill the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan. This gives us definite grounds, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed, for hoping that his leadership will act to remove the obstacles to developing good-neighborly relations between the two countries.

The briefing's moderator described the stories circulated in the Pakistani press of the Soviet Union's complicity in the air catastrophe in which Ziaul Haq perished as absurd and provocative fabrications. He announced that Yu. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, had summoned Pakistan's Ambassador M. Hamin and pointed out the provocative statements in the Pakistani press regarding the USSR and the threats of violent actions against Soviet establishments and Soviet representatives in Pakistan. In this connection the ambassador was asked to immediately tell his government that people in the Soviet Union hope that this hostile, slanderous campaign will cease. We also expect, G.I. Gerasimov said, that the requisite measures will be adopted to ensure the security of Soviet representatives in Pakistan.

Then, in response to journalists' questions, the Foreign Ministry spokesman dwelt on the so-called war of mines in Afghanistan, explanations of which were given to Mr Charles Redman of the U.S. State Department. Following the explanations, State Department spokesman P. Oakley stated that she had no knowledge of any instances of minesweeping.

"I will continue the polemics," G.I. Gerasimov said, "and I will cite specific figures and facts. The Soviet side laid mines around areas where Soviet garrisons and posts were stationed. The minefields are being cleared when personnel and equipment are withdrawn from these areas. Relevant documentation on this exists and is being handed to the Afghan authorities and to UN observers in Kabul. The question of minefields arose during conversations on the Afghan settlement at various levels, and every time we stressed that the Soviet side was strictly adhering to this practice.

To date 1,518 minefields have been eliminated. More than 100 have been transferred to the Afghan side. On 15 May our forces were located in 16 main garrisons in 17 provinces. But after 15 August they remained in 8 main garrisons and in 5 of 31 Afghan provinces. The number of minefields has fallen correspondingly.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman told journalists that in the first half of August 15 groupings from the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan," the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan," and "Hizballah" totaling approximately 1,000 men ceased armed struggle against the people's power in Afghanistan. They handed over to government organs a large quantity of weapons and munitions. In Faryab Province the "Lal Muhammadiyah and Jamiliyah" group has adopted a decision to abandon its struggle against the government.

"The material damage caused by the armed Afghan opposition's offensive against the city of Konduz is also being calculated," G. Gerasimov said. "The rebels seized 35 metric tons of fuel and 54 metric tons of food, all the shops were looted, and 200 people were driven away."

Journalists were also informed that a direct road link between the Soviet Union and Turkey through the border point at Sarny in the region of Batumi would be opened 31 August under an intergovernmental agreement signed recently.

Zagladin on Importance of 'Common European Home'
AU2908120288 Vienna VOLKSSTIMME in German 27 Aug 88 p 3

[Article by Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department: "Building the 'Common Home' Together"]

[Text] Since Mikhail Gorbachev presented the idea of the "common European home" (3 years ago, during the visit of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary to France in October 1985), we have often been asked what we mean by this. We are also often asked to give more details about our ideas.

Without claiming that I am going to say anything new, I would like to stress some of the aspects of this concept.

Europe is undoubtedly a real, historically developed, geographic, economic, and cultural entity common to the people and to the states on its territory. However, the extremely abundant opportunities to improve the life of the peoples in Europe and to raise the quality of their lives, on the basis of widespread contacts and varied cooperation, are not seized. Even more, these opportunities are strongly undermined by the existing barriers of mistrust, imposed isolation, and discrimination.

To One's Own Taste [subhead]

The current social and political differences between the states of the continent cannot be eliminated because they are the results of choices made by its peoples. Of course, in principle this choice can change, but at present one does not observe anyone striving to change it—neither in the West nor in the East. However, if this is the case, every member of the European community must have the right to live as it chooses.

At the same time, the differences must not be an obstacle to cooperation. It is our firm conviction that it is possible to eliminate the existing obstacles on this road; this will

be in the interest of all Europeans because—and there is no doubt about this—in spite of all of their differences they also have common interests, and these interests have to be realized together.

Actually, this process has already been started. I am referring to the Helsinki Final Act. I would like to repeat, however, that in my view this was only the beginning. Since 1975, when the Europeans—together with the United States and Canada (whose close links with Europe are also a fact)—embarked upon the course of cooperation, much has changed in the world and also in Europe. Now that which constituted gigantic progress 13 years ago no longer completely meets all real needs of the continent.

Individual Issues [subhead]

Our concept of the "common European home" is an attempt to advance even further on the basis of Helsinki. This concept envisages the following final goals:

—In the military sphere: the establishment of firm, concrete guarantees for peace on the continent, including the elimination of the existing asymmetries in armaments, arms reduction, and the elimination of the nuclear threat.

—In politics: deepening equal and constructive cooperation and completely solving all upcoming problems at the negotiating table for the mutual benefit of all European states and peoples.

—In the economy: the establishment of a common European economic mechanism that permits all European countries—without violating the interests of any country or any integrated group—to draw maximum benefit from equal cooperation, both among themselves and among the economic groups on the continent.

—In culture: the establishment of a mechanism of cooperation that permits us to more deeply recognize, appreciate, and enrich our common cultural heritage.

—In the humanitarian sphere: the establishment of structures that make it possible not only to solve the developing humanitarian problems on a mutually acceptable basis, but also to guarantee real trust among the people and the working out and confirmation of a way of thinking conducive to all-European demilitarization, substituting the partner image for the enemy image even though the partner may have views different from one's own.

Eliminating Blocs [subhead]

I understand that many questions can be asked in connection with the above-mentioned issues. There is one question that I think will certainly be asked: What about the division of Europe into military blocs? Yes, blocs do exist. This is a fact. We proceed from the premise that the military blocs have to be liquidated in the future, but today they still exist.

Therefore, at present it must be found out how cooperation of the existing alliances can be guaranteed in the interest of stability on the continent. We are convinced that a certain political cooperation of these blocs is necessary, and we propose such cooperation. I am referring to, among other things, our idea of jointly discussing military doctrines, the problem of eliminating asymmetries, etc.

In conclusion, I would like to discuss one more idea: Who and what forces can jointly and effectively participate in designing and building the "common European home," as well as struggle for stability on the continent? We are convinced that these can comprise all or almost all existing political forces.

It is this idea in particular that forms the basis of our proposal to hold a roundtable conference of the European political forces. We envisage a broad, informal, and constructive exchange of opinions on the present and future of our continent and on the directions of its further development. The contacts that the Soviet Union has established with the most varied political circles in Europe prove that such a dialogue is possible and that it can be extremely fruitful.

China

Joint Border Trade 'Developing Successfully'

LD2908173288 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Beijing August 29 TASS—According to the Chinese side, Soviet-Chinese border trade is developing successfully. In the first six months of this year its total volume under 50 contracts signed with the Heilongjiang Province authorities amounted to 240 t...llion Swiss francs. Several more contracts were concluded in July. Beijing newspapers point out that they contribute to expanding further mutually advantageous economic and technical cooperation.

The greater part of trade operations is made on a barter basis. The USSR supplies China with timber, steel, cement, chemical fertilizers and imports from China meat, vegetables, grain, textiles, clothing and some other consumer goods. Today lists of bilateral barter trade have over 100 items.

To step up Soviet-Chinese trade relations, the Heilongjiang Province authorities opened additionally six river ports for Soviet traders. Du Xianzhong, deputy chairman of the People's Government of the province, said that Chinese companies wishing to trade with Soviet partners could approach the provincial authorities with a request to issue export licences.

Japanese Leader Takeshita's PRC Visit Reported

Li Peng Speaks

PM2908114188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Talks Begun"]

[Text] Beijing, 25 Aug—Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita arrived here today for a 6-day official visit. He will be holding talks with the Chinese leadership at which questions of bilateral relations and international problems of mutual interest will be discussed.

Speaking at a reception held in honor of the head of the Japanese Government, PRC State Council Premier Li Peng stressed the great importance of the Chinese-Japanese "Treaty on Peace and Friendship" signed in 1978, which, in his words, has strengthened the political basis for bilateral relations. Ties between the PRC and Japan have made progress in the years since then, he observed. The head of the Chinese Government also expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries will strengthen and develop.

Diplomats Hail Remarks

OW2608112088 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug 26 KYODO—The Soviet Union is "very satisfied" with Chinese Premier Li Peng's remark on Thursday that an overall normalization of Sino-Soviet ties is on the agenda between the two communist giants, Soviet diplomatic sources here said Friday.

Li made the comment during 3 and ½ hours of talks with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita in Beijing, according to Japanese officials.

The Soviet sources, talking to Japanese reporters in a regular monthly briefing, said the situation is moving toward a complete normalization of ties between Moscow and Beijing.

China and the Soviet Union have achieved progress in improving ties in the cultural, economic, and transport fields "at a fast pace" since Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in 1985, the sources said.

The main pending problem is how to secure an improvement in the political sphere, particularly between the Communist Parties of the two countries, they said.

Meanwhile, the sources criticized Japan's most recent annual defense report, which they said is outdated.

The Defense Agency's White Paper, "Defense of Japan 1988," issued on Tuesday, said that the Soviet Union is continuing a military buildup despite the conclusion of a superpower treaty on the elimination of the intermediate-range nuclear force weapons.

The Soviet sources said the Japanese report seemed to have been based on the military situation prevailing 10 or 15 years ago.

Economic Agreement Signed

OW2908201388 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1115 GMT 29 Aug 88

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Vitaliy Ilyashenko]

[Text] The official visit of Takeshita, prime minister of Japan, to China continues. The official part of the visit ended with the signing of a Sino-Japanese Agreement on the Stimulation and Mutual Protection of Investments. [video shows two officials exchanging documents] This is what it is officially called. Put simply, it means that a green light has been given to Japanese capital investments in the Chinese economy. Japanese businessmen in the PRC will have certain privileges.

Takeshita held meetings and talks with PRC Premier Li Peng and other leaders. In their opinion, the new agreement could become a turning point in the development of economic ties between the two countries.

Presently, Japanese investments account for only 8 percent of foreign investments in the PRC economy. Takeshita also announced that Japan will make available to China at advantageous terms credit to the tune of more than $6 billion.

It does seem that in the area of economic and trade ties between the two countries a new chapter is about to begin.

'Third Wave' of PRC Reforms Possible

LD2908171988 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 29 Aug 88

[From the "International Dairy", presented by Igor Charikov]

[Text] [Charikov] I have included a report from Vladimir Kulikov, our Beijing correspondent, in our program today. Here it is:

[Kulikov] More and more frequently, the Chinese press, economists, and scientists are raising the issue of the unemployed in China. Moreover, this is not just a matter of isolated individuals but of entire enterprises which are on the verge of being closed down because they have failed to survive the competition on the stormy seas of a commodity economy. This issue is becoming a serious economic and social problem for China. As foreseen by Chinese scientists, the solution to this problem could be a third wave of Chinese reforms.

One means of solving this matter as seen in China is the absorption of unsuccessful enterprises by their flourishing neighbors. While the law on the principles of such absorption is still only being developed, the process is fully under way in the country. Thus, in the southern province of Guangdong, 50 unviable enterprises have already been absorbed. In the town of Wuhan there is an auction at which unsuccessful enterprises can present their services. In Shanghai, Nanjing, Harbin, and other towns in the country, the same processes are under way. The Chinese press reports more facts attesting that this process is having a favorable effect on the development of the economic situation within the country and is facilitating increasing the viability of enterprises and impovements in the economy. As for the staff likely to risk unemployment, the newspapers report that six new statutes are being drafted in the country, linked to the use of labor resources, part of which provides for insurance in the event of unemployment.

Northeast Asia

Commentary on U.S. Nuclear Warships in Japan

OW2908144388 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Kugin commentary]

[Text] The "USS Bunker Hill," a cruiser, and the "USS Fife," a capital ship [zhu li jian], arrived in Yokosuka, Japan, in late August and will be based there. Both warships were outfitted with launchers for nuclear-capable Tomahawk cruise missiles in March this year. The Japanese press, using information from the Washington Political Institute, reports that there are 6 nuclear missiles aboard the cruiser and 11 on the capital ship. Kugin, a station observer, has the following comment in this regard:

The report shows that the Japanese Government is not enforcing its officially declared nonnuclear policy. The fact is, it constantly violates this policy. As everyone knows, many U.S. 7th Fleet warships in Japanese ports are equipped with nuclear arms. The relevant naval manuals prove this fact. Retired U.S. servicemen have repeatedly told about how the United States ships nuclear weapons into Japan. They say sarcastically that they have never seen U.S. warships remove their nuclear weapons before they enter Japanese ports.

The Tomahawk cruise missiles on many U.S. warships further complicate the problem. A Japanese military expert writes that the new U.S. sea strategy is designed to turn the ocean into a huge launching pad for nuclear missiles. He points out that Japan is getting more and more deeply involved in Washington's strategy by allowing U.S. warships in Japanese ports.

The Japanese Government is constantly assuring people that it is adhering to its three nonnuclear principles—not importing, not possessing, and not manufacturing nuclear weapons. The 1988 Defense White Paper, which has just been approved by the cabinet, also guarantees adherence to these three principles. The Japanese Government assumes that these principles are not violated and that there are no nuclear weapons in Japan, as long as the Americans do not officially inform it that they have shipped nuclear arms into Japan.

According to the press, the United States and Japan have in fact signed a secret accord allowing the United States to ship nuclear arms into Japan. Washington is not only turning Japan into a nuclear base, it is also asking the Japanese Armed Forces to prepare for a nuclear war. This is proved by the participation of Japanese warships in combined military exercises with U.S. aircraft carriers and other warships. These exercises allow the participants to engage in simulated nuclear actions. All this runs counter to the trend of improvement in the current international situation.

The international situation is moving toward a reduction of the level of military confrontation and curbing the arms race. However, it is no accident that the Tokyo government is ignoring this trend and deliberately minimizing its significance in the above-mentioned White Paper.

Japan's 'Defense White Paper' Criticized

PM2908151788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Second Edition p 7

[Article by PRAVDA own correspondent I. Latyshev under the rubric "Correspondent Comments": "Contrary to Common Sense"]

[Text] Tokyo, 25 Aug—In accordance with annual practice, the Japanese Government has published its "Defense White Paper" which sets out the government's views on defense issues and its plans in this sphere. The document's content cannot fail to cause perplexity. You get the impression that it was written not in the present, when a turn toward detente and rejection of the arms race has become discernible in the course of international events, but at the very height of the "cold war."

All the zeal of the document's authors is aimed at intimidating the public with the imaginary "aggressiveness" of the Soviet Union and a supposed "military threat" posed to Japan by the Soviet armed forces. The book makes short, passing references to our country's restructuring, to the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, to the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, and to other steps only to then inundate the reader with a mass of deliberately false conjectures about the Soviet Union's increasing military preparations in the Far East.

The book also clearly reveals the aim of these deliberate distortions of reality: Its authors need attacks on the Soviet Union to justify in the eyes of the Japanese public the Takeshita government's line of increasing the military might of the Japanese armed forces. The myth of the "Soviet military threat" serves as a smoke screen for Japanese Government circles to conceal not only from the Japanese public but also from the public of the Asian countries the evil intentions of those who favor turning Japan into a first-rate military power.

According to information in the White Paper, the main emphasis of Japan's military policy will be laid on a qualitative and quantitative increase in the "Self-Defense Forces'" armaments.

The ambitious military plans of the Japanese ruling circles cause concern among the local public and raise strong objections among the parliamentary opposition parties. A statement by the Japanese Socialist Party condemns the desire of the White Paper's authors to base their analysis of the international situation on the so-called "concept of nuclear deterrence" which is used to justify the NATO countries' unwillingness to give up nuclear weapons completely.

A statement by the Communist Party of Japan leadership published in AKAHATA is couched in sharply critical terms. "In conditions whereby the world is witnessing a global trend toward eliminating nuclear weapons, averting nuclear war, and toward nuclear disarmament, as expressed in the U.S.-Soviet Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles," the newspaper says, "the Defense White Paper, the first of these books published by Takeshita's government, lays stress on the 'concept of nuclear deterrence'...." The book claims that an arms buildup and the strengthening of the military alliance with the United States "contribute to the cause of universal peace and security." But it is actually a question of turning Japan into an Asian base for political maneuvers directed against the global trend toward disarmament and the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Continuing 'Tense' Situation in Burma Reported

BK3008120288 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 30 Aug 88

[Text] According to news agencies, the situation remains tense in Burma. Mass demonstrations continue to take place in many cities as authorities are unable to solve the worsening economic conditions in the country. In a large number of cities, party and administrative organs have resigned and people's committees are being set up to administer social and security matters.

Yesterday, former president U Win Maung announced that the League for Peace and Democracy had been established, and many leading Burmese politicians who are critical of U Ne Win's administration have joined that league.

According to an announcement by Dr Maung Maung, chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party and head of state, an extraordinary party congress scheduled for 12 September will deliberate on a national referendum that will decide the political future of Burma.

Moves To Settle Cambodia Issue Welcomed

PM2908143788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Second Edition p 7

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "Political Observer's Comments": "The Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] Is it possible that things have really started moving? Is it possible that light has begun to appear at the end of the tunnel? Such questions are not only being asked nowadays about Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf,

and Namibia, but about Cambodia as well. The consequences of the protracted regional conflict have long extended beyond the bounds of that long-suffering country. The center of military tension along the Cambodian-Thai border is prejudicial to good-neighborly relations between the countries of Indochina and the members of ASEAN and hampers Southeast Asia's becoming a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality. Beijing asserts that the solution of the Cambodian problem would open the way to the full normalization of Sino-Soviet relations and to a summit meeting of the two countries' leaders.

The world press has begun talking of positive shifts regarding the political settlement of the Cambodian problem and of hopes that national reconciliation will end the "9-year-long tragedy." I am ready to go along with such commentaries as long as it is made clear that the calamities that have befallen the Cambodian people has lasted not 9 but 18 years. It all started with the American bombing of 1970, when the U.S. Air Force, unbeknownst to Congress and the public, extended its combat operations into the eastern regions of Cambodia. Hundreds of thousands of refugees poured into Phnom Penh and destabilized the situation in the capital. As a result of the disturbances Prince Sihanouk, the founder of independent Cambodia, was overthrown. Power was seized by America's protege, Lon Nol. And 5 years later he was replaced by Pol Pot, whom the then Beijing bosses of the "great Cultural Revolution" urged to test out on Cambodian soil an export version of their fantastic schemes, including the elimination of towns and the physical extermination of the intelligentsia. Three million people fell victim to Pol Pot's butchers.

At the beginning of 1979 the people of Cambodia, with the fraternal support of Vietnam, overthrew the bloody Pol Pot clique. The People's Republic of Kampuchea was declared. Its opponents have failed to reverse the process of national revival. But dug in as they are along the Thai-Cambodian border and in receipt of generous foreign aid, they have waged an undeclared war against the people's power. The forcible recruitment of refugees into antigovernment military formations, their military training in special camps, and their dispatch deep inside the country to carry out acts of sabotage and terrorism has much resembled the situation on the Pakistan-Afghan border. However, the exhausting 9-year-long conflict has shown that the Cambodian problem cannot be solved by force of arms.

A year ago the PRK leadership proclaimed the policy of national reconciliation and then underpinned it with a specific action program. It expressed its readiness to enter talks with all belligerent groups, including Pol Pot's followers (except for Pol Pot himself and his closest accomplices), and to guarantee an amnesty for everyone who laid down their arms. It also proposed that the Cambodian-Thai border be turned into a border of peace and friendship and that all Cambodian refugees in camps on Thai territory be repatriated forthwith.

The decision of Hanoi and Phnom Penh to speed up the Vietnamese volunteers' return home has ushered in even more favorable opportunities for a political settlement. By the end of this year 50,000 men—half their total number—will have left Cambodia. And the withdrawal of the rest will be completed by the end of 1989 or beginning of 1990. Given this, the question now occupying center stage is how to guarantee that power in Cambodia will not again be seized by Pol Pot's followers after the pullback of the Vietnamese volunteers. (According to press reports, Khmer Rouge detachments number 35,000-40,000, Sihanouk's armed supporters amount to 12,000-15,000 men, while Son Sann, the leader of the third antigovernment grouping, has fewer still). All interested parties have agreed that the Khmer Rouge are entitled to remain a political but not a military force. Even Beijing has now adopted a more flexible stance on this question, stating that none of the four existing groupings in Cambodia can be kept out of a coalition government, but nor should any one of them monopolize power.

Under these conditions the initiative of Vietnam and Indonesia to hold an informal meeting of the warring Cambodian sides not only justified itself but even in some respects exceeded expectations. The Indonesian city of Bogor saw the first meeting for 9 years between Hun Sen, the head of the Phnom Penh government, and representatives of the three opposition groupings—Sihanouk's son, Son Sann, and Khieu Samphan (Sihanouk himself was close by, in Jakarta, and for practical purposes, if not formally, took part in the discussion). The participants in the Bogor meeting agreed for the first time that the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia and specific guarantees which would prevent the restoration of the Pol Pot regime and end the supply of foreign weapons to antigovernment forces are two key interlinked questions.

Hun Sen's idea of creating a quadripartite national reconciliation council headed by Prince Sihanouk met with a well-disposed response and was blocked only by the Khmer Rouge representative. It is valuable that the various sides put forward specific proposals both at the actual meeting and afterward and that the opportunity arose for a rapprochement of the stances and mutually acceptable compromises. It was decided at Bogor to set up a working party which will present recommendations by December on the next such meeting (before that, Hun Sen and Sihanouk intend to hold a third round of their bilateral talks).

According to the initiators of the Indonesian meeting, Washington, Moscow, and Beijing have expressed a readiness to promote a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. It was this topic that occupied a place of pride during U.S Secretary of State George Shultz' recent trip to Southeast Asia and the Far East. The Cambodian problem will be discussed by participants in the Soviet-Chinese consultations at deputy foreign minister level which begin soon in Beijing. I would like to hope that the

fratricidal conflict in Cambodia will soon come to an end. And solving the Cambodian problem would in many respects improve the political climate throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

Soviet-Thai Consultations Completed

PM2908124388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Consultations Completed"]

[Text] Bangkok, 23 Aug—Soviet-Thai consultations on the main issues of the agenda of the 43d UN General Assembly Session and on bilateral relations have ended here. They have been conducted for the first time in line with the agreement signed during the Thai prime minister's official visit to the USSR in May of this year.

The exchange of opinions demonstrated the coincidence or proximity of their positions on questions of curbing the nuclear arms race, disarmament, strengthening international security, and the swiftest conclusion of work on a convention on the universal prohibition and complete destruction of chemical weapons. The sides also agreed on the need to strengthen the operation of the nuclear weapons nonproliferation treaty and boost the effectiveness of the role of the United Nations and UN bodies.

The sides recorded the positive development of Soviet-Thai relations in recent years and stressed their determination to exert every effort to realize the agreements and accords reached during the high-level visit in May.

The first Soviet-Thai consultations took place in a spirit of amicability and mutual understanding reflecting the mutual desire to seek out new constructive ways to broaden the two countries' all-around mutually advantageous ties. Taking part in the consultations on the Soviet side was A.S. Zaytsev, deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries Administration and chief of the Southeast Asia Department, on the Thai side—Pracha Kunnakasem, general director of the foreign ministry's international organizations department, and Thep Thewakun, general director of the Foreign Ministry's political department.

Commentary on Improved Southeast Asian Situation

OW2908141788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Tulov commentary]

[Text] I have always thought that the climate of Southeast Asia, which is located in the tropics, is hot. Of course, this is a description we apply when we compare it with the climate of our temperate zone. Nevertheless, I must say that the climate in Southeast Asia is becoming warmer, no matter what.

Dear listeners: First, the U.S. aggression against Southeast Asia and then the clash in Cambodia have divided the countries in the region into two opposing camps. Because of the interference by external forces, the complex relations between the two camps have evolved into an intense and very dangerous confrontation. As a sympathizer of the distressed Southeast Asian people, I am especially happy to point out that the barometer of the region's political life is forecasting fine days ahead. A series of events have helped bring about this important change.

First, I would like to point out the tenacious efforts and attempts made by Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos to solve the complex problems there, including the Cambodian issue. I must also point out the realistic stand adopted by statesmen of a number of Southeast Asian nations, particularly Indonesia. They have responded to the appeals made by neighboring countries and conducted frequent political dialogues with those countries.

In addition, the overall world situation has also played a role in the region. I am referring to the remarkable improvement made in Soviet-U.S. relations and in Soviet-Chinese relations, the signing of the Geneva accord, the ongoing withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the prospects for ending the Iran-Iraq war, and so forth.

In July, remarkable progress was made in Southeast Asia's political life when a four-party meeting on Cambodia was held in Bogor, Indonesia, raising hopes of mediation in the Cambodian conflict. The meeting clearly showed the possibility of unification of all forces in Cambodia on the basis of patriotism. It also formulated ways for continuing dialogue.

The first meeting of the Cambodian four-party working group, formed in accordance with the resolution of the Bogor meeting, ended on 17 August in the capital of Zimbabwe. The participants to the meeting included representatives of India, Indonesia, Zimbabwe, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Vietnam. Meanwhile, Prince Sihanouk, the leader recognized by all opposition factions of Cambodia, reiterated that he plans to continue political dialogue with Hun Sen, leader of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. It has been announced that their next meeting will begin in France on 15 November.

Other Southeast Asian nations have also done all they can to keep up with the Cambodian parties. New Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan issued a foreign policy statement pointing out the desire of the Bangkok administration to normalize relations with neighboring countries. He said: We are ready to turn battlefields in markets.

I think that this was a laudable statement. A few days later, Thailand announced that its Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun will visit Hanoi soon to discuss a

wide range of issues with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach. I think that a candid exchange of views in a healthy and friendly atmosphere will create new possibilities for normalizing the situation in Southeast Asia.

Near East & South Asia

Najibullah on Space Flight; Offers Cease-Fire

LD2908181588 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul August 29 TASS—"The Afghan Armed Forces cease fire for the entire duration of the joint Soviet-Afghan space flight and will use arms only for purposes of defence", President Najibullah of Afghanistan today announced in his address to the nation on the occasion of the launch of the spaceship with the international crew. He called upon the opposition forces to listen to the voice of reason and stop the fratricidal war.

"The flight of Mohmand 'Abdullah Ahad fills with pride the hearts of the Afghans both living in the homeland and beyond it", he said. "The appearance in the near-terrestrial orbit of the Soviet-Afghan crew is a new manifestation of friendship between the two peoples. The Soviet Union is a sincere friend of our country, it put at our disposal its advanced knowledge and technology, all possibilities for space research. This flight raised high Afghanistan's prestige all over the world", Najibullah stressed.

"The joint space mission will be of immense importance to the development of the Afghan economy", Najibullah went on. "Its results will have a salutary impact on the study of minerals and water reserves, will make it possible to draft precise geological and topographical maps. All this will serve the cause of developing Afghanistan and its prosperity.

"The space flight itself is a reflection of the state policy aimed at improving the conditions of people's life, at expediting development along the road of progress. This line, however, draws the spite of the extremists who are eager to set the country back to the Middle Ages and to force the people to live in poverty and want, illiteracy and to be denied any rights.

"Space is the field of international cooperation, the field of peace. Today's flight is an invitation to peace on the Afghan land. The ceasefire in the entire territory of the country will be instrumental to this great cause", the president said. He expressed the hope that such an important event as the joint Soviet-Afghan space flight will exert positive influence on the implementation of the national reconciliation policy, the restoration of peace and security.

Ahmad Shad Rejects Truce

LD2908194488 Moscow TASS in English 1934 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] London August 29 TASS—Ahmad Shah, head of the so-called transitional government formed by the Afghan opposition "Alliance of the Seven" in Pakistani territory, has turned down the call by the president of the Republic of Afghanistan to cease fire for the duration of the Soviet-Afghan space flight, REUTER reported from Islamabad.

He issued threats to the Afghan central government and said that the Afghan irreconcilable opposition would intensify its actions.

Afghan Military Situation Remains 'Complex'

LD2908143288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0655 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, 29 Aug (TASS)—Over the last few days the military and political situation in Afghanistan has remained complex. The rebels continue to fire on security posts and population points in most of the country, particularly in the provinces of Kabul, Baghlan, Helmand, Qandahar, Paktia, and others.

According to reports reaching here from Pakistan, "terror convoys" are continuing to penetrate Afghan territory. In recent days a large quantity of weapons and ammunition has been brought into the provinces of Nangarhar and Parvan, and Baghram District (in a convoy consisting of 45 beasts of burden carrying Stinger antiaircraft missiles, Blowpipe missiles, and ammunition for heavy and small arms for armed groups in the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan" (ISA). [parentheses as received] About 250 vehicles carrying weapons and ammunition have reached armed opposition detachments operating in 'Ali Kheyl and Chamkani Districts (Khowst Province), from Theri Mangal (Pakistan).

In the subdistrict of Chahar Dar (Parvan Province), a group of insurgents trained in Pakistan has been been brought in, while five armed formations have arrived in the Khak-e Jabbar Subdistrict, near Kabul, to shell government troop posts and the capital.

Foreign advisors are now in Samangan Province to train insurgents to capture the provincial center, while in the Achin major district (Nangahar Province), three Pakistani advisors are assisting commanders in preparations for attacking guard posts and the district center.

The leadership of the "Alliance of Seven" now entrenched in Peshawar has been making vigorous attempts to unite the two most extreme groupings, the IPA [Islamic Party of Afghanistan] and the ISA, which operate in the northeast of the country.

An active opposition propaganda campaign aims at spreading the theory that the Afghan Army is incapable of opposing opposition detachments independently. The capture of Konduz and Taloqan is interpreted by the extremists' propaganda as evidence that "if the need arises, the mujahidin are potentially able to seize and retain any major populated place in the country." The insurgents are engaged in intensified ideological work among the civilian population with the aim of discrediting government ventures linked to raising reinforcements for the Armed Forces.

U.S. State Department Afghan 'Slander' Condemned

LD2908213988 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1315 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, 29 Aug (TASS)—The U.S. State Department has set another record for hypocrisy. In a report on the problems of terrorism, one drawn up in Washington and evidently not without the help of the CIA, Afghanistan is depicted as the "main terrorist" in the region. This report has attributed to Afghanistan practically all the explosions that have occurred in Pakistan over the period under examination.

A Western observer reads this document, if it can be called that, and sees that Afghan agents, with whom Pakistan is seemingly teeming, have left far behind such well known "cloak-and-dagger knights" as the CIA, the British MI-6, not to mention the Israeli Mosad special service.

Is the document designed only for the gullible man in the street? It seems that rather more weighty aims are being followed. The inventions that it cites are supposed to distract the world's attention, if only for a time, from those who are really responsible for terror in the region. So with the appearance of another bunch of inventions from the State Department, it will be by no means superfluous to look at them once again with the facts at hand.

On Saturday, 127 missiles fell on Kabul, sowing death among innocent civilians. Who knows better than the gentlemen in Washington how many instruments of destruction have been conveyed through CIA channels to the "freedom fighters" who for some reason are not considered terrorists on the banks of the Potomac, despite all their crimes.

"Caravans of terror" cross the Afghan-Pakistan border every day with the help of official Islamabad. They bear crates inscribed "NATO arsenal" in which Stinger and Blowpipe missiles made in U.S. and British arms factories and Spanish machineguns and Italian mines are passed into Afghan territory. This deadly cargo will later come to face Afghan civilian housing in Khowst or Gardeyz, Ghazni, or Kabul. Foreign "advisers" guide the hands of the true terrorists.

After the recent wave of bombs in Ulster and Londonderry, Mrs Thatcher denounced the terrorists who are killing English soldiers and those who deliver explosives to them. And not a single word of reproach for those who sow death on an immeasurably greater scale on Afghan soil. Moreover, she treats them with affection at stately receptions, calling them "patriots." This is a double standard to which politicans today resort not only on the banks of the Thames but also in other Western capitals.

The BBC "testifies" to bombing raids on Afghan towns by Soviet aircraft "which flew from the territory of the USSR," citing the tale of an "eyewitness." Such a far-seeing witness is truly a find for the Western mass media, and practically all anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet propaganda concerning Afghanistan is constructed according to such a formula. The "gentlemen's kit" of the would-be propagandists likewise includes Soviet booby traps which kill credulous Afghan children, threadbare inventions about chemical weapons supposedly being used in Afghanistan, "secret" minefields which kill refugees returning to their native hearths, and much more.

The report of the U.S. State Department has added a new stream to the flow of slander which the West is now bringing to bear on Afghanistan.

Gen Vasilyev on West's 'Lies' on Afghan Mines

PM2908133788 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 5

[By Major General V. Vasilyev, chief of staff of the Engineer Forces of the USSR Defense Ministry: "Truth and Lies About Mines"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] As reported in yesterday's edition, the Soviet side has destroyed 1,518 minefields in Afghanistan. We asked Major General V. Vasilyev, chief of staff of the Engineer Forces of the USSR Defense Ministry, to comment on this fact.

The Geneva accords on Afghanistan opened the way to peace in that country and set a precedent which will undoubtedly have far-reaching consequences and affect approaches to similar international problems in other parts of the world. However, by all accounts it is precisely these positive trends in the development of international relations that do not suit those opposed to resolving regional conflicts by political means. Some people in the West are currently making every effort to torpedo the Geneva accords with the help of their favorite method—slandering the USSR.

With no chance to deny that the Soviet Union is strictly and responsibly carrying out its commitments with regard to withdrawing its military units from Afghanistan, along with their respective equipment and arms, various rumors are being circulated to besmirch the internationalist servicemen from the limited contingent

of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. An example of these lies was provided by the reports claiming that Soviet and Afghan troops are "making extensive use of the tactic of mining population centers and transportation arteries" in order to prevent the return of refugees to those parts of Afghanistan controlled by the armed opposition.

Thus, the GLOBE AND MAIL newspaper recently published an article by its own correspondent in Pakistan, B. Johnson, who claimed that "Soviet troops are leaving behind mined civilian installations as well as booby traps that have been causing considerable casualties among the peaceful population." Many parts of Afghanistan are allegedly strewn with mines, "which altogether total 3-5 million." At briefings, U.S. State Department spokesmen have also repeatedly supplied representatives of the mass media with similar reports.

The Soviet Union has never made any secret of the fact that minefields were set out on Afghan territory by servicemen from the limited contingent. Their aim was to prevent the insurgents from mining roads and destroying tunnels, bridges, pipelines, and power lines, and to guard the approaches to other defended national economic installations, airfields, military garrisons, guard posts, and Soviet and Afghan troop posts. It was this, as is well known, that helped to put a stop to terrorist attempts to blow up the "Sarowbi" and "Naghlu" hydroelectric power stations, the Kabul Televison Center, and other targets. But population centers or agricultural land have never been mined on Afghan territory. Much less have Soviet troops used booby traps or so-called "surprise" mines.

All this comes from the arsenal of means used by extremist elements among the Afghan opposition. It is they who are now presenting the minefields as an immense danger to local inhabitants and refugees returning to their homeland. Specialists in acts of terrorism, in doing their dirty work, are especially aiming at their own countrymen. It is not the Soviet troops but rather the antigovernment forces that are laying mines and demolition charges on transportation arteries to disrupt shipments of food, medicine, and other national economic goods to Afghanistan's peaceful population. It is they who are mining the villages, schools, hospitals, mosques, and approaches to water abandoned by the inhabitants. And they are doing this in a sophisticated manner, utilizing the experience and under the direct leadership of instructors who have become adept at such doings in the world's "hot spots."

The Soviet and Afghan military command has proof that immediately after the Geneva accords took effect, foreign advisors together with armed groups of extremists again infiltrated into Afghan territory from Pakistan. They are helping their underlings to develop a network of military centers and are carefully teaching them to carry out acts of terrorism and sabotage. The numerous mining and explosives manuals captured from the opposition are confirmation of this. They contain corresponding sections drawn up in the West on the use of booby traps and "surprise" mines—radios, tape recorders, thermos bottles, flashlights, pens, toys, and other articles stuffed with explosives.

Here is the scale of the use of mines and demolition charges by these formations:

Whereas 1,065 mines and demolition charges were discovered on Afghan roads in 1980, in 1982 the number had risen to 5,815, and since 1983 the figure has remained at an annual level of 8,000-10,000. In the first half of 1988 alone 10,826 mines and demolition charges were discovered and disarmed. These included the American M-19 and M-18A1, the Belgian M-3, the British MK-7, the Italian TS-6.1, TS-2.5, and TS-50, and other makes of antitank, antivehicle, and antipersonnel mines and demolition charges. The total number of such weapons disarmed by engineers from the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan amounts to almost 250,000 over the past 8 years.

The minefields laid by Soviet servicemen in Afghanistan pose no danger to local inhabitants and refugees returning home. Second, the minefields are under constant supervision and observation, and each of them is properly documented. The minefields are surrounded by special fences carrying warning signs in Dari and Pashto. In other words, the minefields laid by Soviet servicemen are strictly in line with the international rules laid down in the 10 April 1981 "Convention banning or restricting the use of specific types of conventional weapons which could be deemed excessively dangerous or indiscriminate."

Second, whereas 2,121 minefields have been laid in Afghanistan on the approaches to important installations and main routes since the arrival of the limited contingent of Soviet troops, currently—as has already been reported—three-fourths of these minefields have already been disarmed. The necessary documentation on the remaining minefields will be handed over to the Afghan military command as Soviet troops leave their garrisons. The Afghan Armed Forces themselves will determine where they will retain minefields and in what numbers.

These are the facts. Real rather than imaginary facts. And they more than eloquently attest to the fact that the dissemination of malicious conjecture about the "millions of Soviet mines" in Afghanistan was a clumsy attempt to at least partly deflect international public opinion away from the Pakistani side's blatant and numerous violations—with the tacit consent of the United States—of the Geneva accords.

Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz on Geneva Peace Talks

LD2908165788 Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Geneva August 29 TASS—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Iraq who is leading his country's delegation to talks with Iran, has briefed newsmen on their progress at a news conference here.

While stressing that the Iraqi delegation had arrived here keen on getting down to serious work to achieve the overriding goal of ending the bloody conflict between the two countries, he expressed regret that the other side had not taken a constructive stand to this day.

The principal stumbling block, the leader of the Iraqi delegation explained, was Iran's unwillingness to positively resolve the issue of clearing the Shatt al-'Arab River channel, which is Iraq's only waterway, and restoring free shipping there.

He described the Iranian negotiating position as aimed at winning unilateral advantages from the ceasefire agreement which entered into force on August 20.

Israel To Launch 'Intelligence Satellite'

PM2901113780 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "'Shavit' Prepares for Lift-Off"]

[Text] New York, 22 Aug—Israel is planning to put its first intelligence satellite into low-earth orbit in the near future using a intermediate-range ballistic missile launcher, TIME reports citing U.S. intelligence sources.

A test of the launcher, the magazine writes, was held in the Mediterranean this May and had two aims: to check the reliability of the missile, which could be fitted with a nuclear warhead, on a 900-mile flight, and to verify its ability to place a satellite in orbit. The test was a success, and now the Israeli cabinet will decide on a launch date for the intelligence satellite in the very near future.

The work in Israel on the planned launch of its own spy satellite, TIME points out, started in 1983 after the creation of a space agency there. The development of the launcher, code-named "Shavit" ("Meteor"), was undertaken by the "Rafael" and "Israel Aircraft Industries" companies, while the satellite was developed by several electronics firms.

Akhromeyev Receives Kuwaiti Military Delegation

LD2908154388 Kuwait KUNA in English 1416 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, Aug 29 (KUNA)—Chief of Staff of Kuwaiti Armed Forces Major General Mizyad al-Sani and a high ranking military delegation Monday arrived here on an official six-day visit to the Soviet Union.

He was received by Chief of Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, a number of top Soviet military officials and the Kuwaiti Ambassador to the Soviet Union 'Abd al-Mohsen al-Du'ayj.

The Kuwaiti-Soviet talks are scheduled to start tomorrow and will touch on ways of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the military field as well as inspecting various Soviet advanced weapons.

Views Bilateral Ties, Gulf

LD3008100688 Moscow TASS in English 0948 GMT 30 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—The chief of the General Staff of Kuwait's Armed Forces, Mizyad al-Sani, is on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces.

Today morning, the Kuwaiti visitor laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin Wall.

He was received by Marshal Akhromeyev, who is also first deputy defence minister of the USSR. They discussed issues of bilateral relations and the situation in the Persian Gulf.

In the afternoon, Mizyad al-Sani is to visit an Air Force garrison in Kubinka, near Moscow, where he is to familiarise himself with the combat equipment and life of Soviet pilots.

The Kuwaiti chief of staff will also visit Leningrad and Tashkent where, along with places of interest, he is to inspect some military facilities.

The visit is to last till September 3.

Foreign Ministry Official Visits Nepal

PM2908114588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A.I. Fialkovskiy, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Southern Asian Countries Administration, was in Kathmandu 22 through 24 August. He held political consultations on the agenda for the 43d UN General Assembly Session and on questions concerning the development of Soviet-Nepalese relations.

Gen Yazov Meets With Indian Chief of Staff

PM2901113588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] On 24 August Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, received Admiral D.G. Nadkarni, chairman of the Indian Joint Chiefs of Staff and chief of staff of the Indian Navy, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit. They had a warm, friendly conversation during which they discussed issues of mutual interest.

Fleet Admiral V.N. Chernavin, commander in chief of the USSR Navy and USSR deputy defense minister, took part in the conversation.

Envoy to Sri Lanka Adds Maldives to Duties

PM2908184588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "Chronicle"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Yuriy Mikhaylovich Kotov, USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Sri Lanka, to be USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Maldives as well.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Current Status of Quadripartite Talks Viewed

PM2908111988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report under "Reports From Abroad" rubric: "South-West Africa: "Short Pause in Talks"]

[Text] Havana, 27 Aug—The fifth round of quadripartite talks between Angola, Cuba, the RSA, and the United States on a settlement of the situation in Namibia, talks which have been under way since 24 August in the Congolese capital, have been temporarily interrupted and will be continued after 5 September, a PRENSA LATINA correspondent reports from Brazzaville.

From 24 through 26 August, the joint communique circulated here today says, the participants in the latest round of quadripartite talks met in Brazzaville with the aim of continuing discussion of the questions linked with an all-embracing peace settlement of the conflict in Namibia. The document notes that the discussions in Brazzaville were of a serious, detailed, and constructive character. The delegations exchanged opinions and analyzed alternatives that could help to settle the still unresolved questions. All the participants in the talks came to the conclusion that they need to hold additional consultations with their countries' governments. In this connection they agreed to meet again after 5 September.

At the Brazzaville meeting, the communique points out, the schedule for the withdrawal of Cuban troops in a northerly direction proposed by the Angolan and Cuban Governments, as well as the question of their phased and complete withdrawal from Angola, were examined. The communique makes no mention of the withdrawal of RSA troops from Angola.

Sao Tome Minister Interviewed on Visit

LD3008053488 Moscow in Portuguese to Africa 1830 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Report by Igor Potovskiy of the African Service]

[Text] Carlos Alberto Dias da Graca, the foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, concluded the agenda of his visit to the USSR today. It has been a wide-ranging and busy agenda, with meetings at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. As you know from our African Service reports, Carlos Alberto Dias da Graca also met with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin.

A few hours ago, I asked Carlos Alberto Dias da Graca to sum up the visit and to share his impressions with us. How does he appraise the present state and future prospects of relations between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe?

[Begin recording] [Da Graca] First and foremost I would like to say that I am very touched by the climate of great and friendly cordiality that existed at my meetings with the leading Soviet comrades. I believe that my visit has been very useful and fruitful insofar as I have been able to exchange information, mutual information, with the Soviet leaders on the political and economic changes occurring in our two countries, changes heralding hope for the material and spiritual progress of our two peoples.

Furthermore, the visit has also been of great interest insofar as I have discussed cooperation with the Soviet authorities, both in the overall aspect of the principles that must guide it to make it lasting and mutually advantageous, and also in specific and concrete areas to be gone into at greater depth by future mixed commissions and at talks between specialized technicians.

We had the opportunity to note that our views on international problems coincided in almost every regard. We further noted that, contrary to what certain ill-informed people believe, there are no reasons for a cooling of relations between our two countries.

I therefore believe that this visit has had a very positive outcome and that it will contribute to the strengthening of the friendship and cooperation relations between our two countries, old relations dating back to the days of our liberation struggle.

[Potovskiy] Comrade Minister, you have just mentioned the cooperation that exists between the two countries.

[Da Graca] In my talks with the comrade Soviet leaders I laid emphasis on the positive aspects of our cooperation with regard to the development of Sao Tome and Principe. I also laid stress on one of the areas of this cooperation, that of the training of cadres. In effect, many of our people have been trained in Soviet schools and universities and, benefitting from the high educational standards of such schools and universities, have been contributing effectively to the tasks of national construction in our country. Besides this sector, we have also had very fruitful cooperation in the areas of health and fisheries—to mutual benefit—and there are prospects for cooperation in other areas such as agriculture, energy production, and others. Nor can we forget education and sports, areas in which we have received many important donations from the USSR. [end recording]

East Europe

Further Reportage on Strike Action in Poland

Labor Minister Issues Statement

LD2908214288 Moscow TASS in English 2127 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Warsaw August 30 TASS—Polish minister of labour and social policy made a statement Monday stressing that the illegal strikes which are continued to be observed at several enterprises constitute a substantial threat to the normal operation of the national economy and the state.

Frequently, the striking minority hamper the work of the majority of people employed at enterprises. If workers do not return to work before August 31, this year, the managers of enterprises should apply means and sanctions against them, which are envisaged by the law, to the point of the rupture of the labour contract, the Polish minister's statement points out.

Jastrzebie Strike Called Off

LD2908212288 Moscow TASS in English 2108 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Warsaw August 29 TASS—The social situation in the coal basin of Katowice Province is being gradually normalized. An illegal strike at Jastrzebie mine, that lasted for 11 days, was called off yesterday following the negotiations between the administration and representatives of the strikers. All striking workers left the territory of the mine.

The stoppage is continued at only one mine now—the July Manifesto enterprise in Jastrzebie Zdroj. Instigators from former "Solidarity" have been most active there from the outset, instigating political demands and seeking that the striking miners do not give up ground at the negotiations with the administration. The coal community has estimated that the damage caused by coal mine stoppages has already amounted to over nine billion zlotys. Some 716,000 tonnes of coal were not produced.

There have been no drastic changes in the situation on the Baltic coast either. The talks between the administration and representatives of the striking workers at Szczecin port, who use the tactic of delays and procrastinations, were interrupted once again. The daily damage caused by idle ships runs into 100 million zlotys. Talks with workers of a bus station in Szczecin have been a setback due to an unrealistic stand by the strikers.

Several hundred workers in a number of shipyards and also in the trade port continue to observe the strike in Gdansk.

The directorate of the Stalewa Wola mill made a decision to resume work in all shops despite the ongoing illegal strike by part of the workers.

PZPR Plenum Opens, Discusses Economy

PM2908112588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Aug 88 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "PZPR Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Warsaw, 28 Aug—The PZPR Central Committee plenum that began its work here yesterday will be devoted to analyzing the sociopolitical and economic situation in Poland and to pressing tasks for the party.

Opening the session, W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, pointed out that the plenum's main task is to continue and deepen the analysis of the pressing problems in the country's life begun at the previous PZPR Central Committee plenum. At the same time, it also seeks to critically and self-critically analyze the causes of the present tension in Poland.

W. Baka, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, delivered a report on the socioeconomic situation and measures to improve it. He stressed that the party's course of deepening the economic and political reforms, which are an objective necessity, remains unchanged. Comparable changes are under way in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The speaker pointed out that there have been shortcomings and omissions in carrying out the economic reform. W. Baka expounded a program of concrete measures to implement economic reform, generally improve the economy, check inflation, and improve the population's supply of basic goods.

J. Czyrek, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, delivered a report "On Broadening Dialogue and Accord—An Analysis of the Political Situation and Topical Problems Involved in

Developing the Political System." In the current serious situation, he said, bold and resolute actions are needed. There will be no turnaround from the line of socialist renewal of sociopolitical and economic life. Polish renewal is part of the great changes at the present stage of the development of socialism, thus confirming its vitality and dynamism, its ability to change the world and change itself.

The speaker stressed that all labor problems can and must be resolved by means of dialogue and agreement. In this connection, he put foward a proposal to create a council of national accord which could be established after a roundtable meeting involving the representatives of various social forces is held. The council could elaborate a joint election program for the next elections to the Sejm which would be a platform for agreement on the most important problems of the people. The PZPR invariably respects Polish socialist pluralism, but the party will not agree with confrontational pluralism.

Plenum Adopts Resolution

LD2908225588 Moscow TASS in English 2239 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Warsaw August 30 TASS—The Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) Central Committee confirms the determination to carry on the policy of socialist renewal, economic reforms and democratization, says a resolution of the plenary meeting held on August 27-28. Half-measures, the changes that only scrape the surface, and the breach of law will not solve Poland's problems, the document says.

Emphasizing an unfavourable development of the socio-economic situation, the PUWP Central Committee states that the sources of failures and the discontent they sparked are not only in the objective difficulties but also in the ineffectiveness in carrying through the reforms.

Exploiting the mounting impatience of the population, the organisers of the illegal strikes forced matters to the stoppage of production at over ten enterprises, the resolution points out. The Central Committee decisively opposes all attempts to destabilize life in the country and put into question the policy of concord, strongly denounces the inspirers and organisers of the illegal strikes.

The Central Committee approved the appraisals and tasks contained in the reports of the Political Bureau and in the concluding remarks of Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PUWP Central Committee, and expressed support for the policy directions and the proposed measures in them.

The PUWP Central Committee issued a call to all social groups, citizens, members of organisations and societies vigorously to support the actions to stem the negative tendencies, overcome the crisis phenomena, and clear the ways to socio-economic advancement. The future of Poland depends on all of us, the resolution emphasizes.

Polish Council of Ministers Meets on Economy

LD2908222188 Moscow TASS in English 2207 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Warsaw August 30 TASS—The Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic met in session in Warsaw Monday. Centerpiece to the session were the practical conclusions stemming for the government and its bodies from the report of the Political Bureau of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) Central Committee, speeches in debates and the concluding remarks by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PUWP Central Committee and president of the Council of State of Poland, at the eighth plenary meeting of the party Central Committee.

The government made a thorough analysis of the current economic policy, primarily in the light of the critical remarks concerning the inadequate effectiveness of the measures to contain inflation and restore market balance, and also in connection with the preservation of such negative phenomena as a surplus number of petty instructions and an excessively bloated bureaucratic apparatus.

The Council of Ministers decreed to draft a plan of strengthening the national economy in keeping with the decisions of the eighth plenary meeting of the PUWP Central Committee before November 15, this year. This document will chart the directions of the socio-economic policy which will pursue above all the objective of improving the living conditions of the population, removing the causes of inflation, restoring market balance and bolstering the money unit.

The Council of Ministers also adopted several other resolutions serving a full mobilization of all forces and means to improve the supply of the market, contain price hikes, and translate into action effectively the economic reform programme.

Polish Paper Cited on Reform, 'Strike Blackmail'

PM2908154588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS correspondent V. Volkov dispatch for PRAVDA: "For Constant and Effective Dialogue"]

[Text] Warsaw, 23 Aug—TRYBUNA LYUDU writes that the latest PZPR Central Committee plenum assessed critically the fulfillment of certain decisions and methods of implementing the second phase of the economic reform. The direction of the necessary changes, especially in the prices-and-incomes sphere, is being studied on the basis of the economic results of the first 6 months.

Working people's living conditions will be examined attentively at the next PZPR Central Committee plenum. But even the best economic decisions and organizational-legal mechanisms will not provide the desired effect without the active participation of the working people themselves in implementing reform. Primary party organizations must persuade people that the radical economic changes will ultimately help them and will in the near future create possibilities for improving the quality of life.

A decision adopted recently by the PZPR Central Committee Politburo points out that it is the duty of party organizations to maintain constant dialogue with the labor collectives, to heed their opinion, and to remove sources of dissatisfaction and misunderstandings. The strike blackmail, accompanied by appeals to recreate the situation of that period when the country's life was completely disorganized, can only intensify the economic difficulties and hold up the processes of reform and national accord. Defending the population's main interests is the most important duty for the party and the authorities of the socialist state. The Politburo stressed that there can be no return to anarchy and past structures. It is necessary to examine again and again the problems to which we are being alerted by labor collectives and to give precise and exhaustive explanations of the steps being taken.

Such work methods require constant and persistent efforts at all levels and in each party link. Party organizations must react sharply to all omissions in work, to lack of responsibility, and to dereliction of duty.

Daily Reports Honecker Meeting With Medvedev

PM2908112988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Constructive Conversation"]

[Text] Berlin, 25 Aug—A meeting took place here between V.A. Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was in the GDR on vacation, and E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. During the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of comradeship and mutual understanding, the sides exchanged views on topical questions of socialist building, the international situation, and ways to further develop relations between the USSR and the GDR and between the CPSU and the SED.

V.A. Medvedev discussed organizational work to fulfill the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference. The conference and the CPSU Central Committee plenum which took place this July demonstrated determination, by means of the reform of the political system, to deepen the process of restructuring and make it irreversible and to achieve real results in the near future in raising the living standard of the USSR's working people.

E. Honecker highly assessed the CPSU's efforts directed toward realizing socialism's potential more efficiently and increasing its attractiveness. He expressed confidence that the Soviet Communists will fulfill the tasks set by the 19th all-union party conference. E. Honecker discussed the efforts of the GDR working people to implement the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and about the development of the Republic's national economy and its achievements in the social sphere.

During the talks, the general opinion was expressed that it is important to make a careful study of the fraternal countries' experience in building socialism.

H. Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee; and V.I. Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR, also took part in the conversation.

Talyzin, Romania's Andrei Visit Exhibition

LD2908200688 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] The national exhibition "Romania-88" opened today in the VDNKh [Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy of the USSR]. Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, cordially welcomed the guests on behalf of the Soviet Government. The following also took part in the ceremony: Comrade Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; heads of a number of ministries and departments; and representatives of party, local soviet, and public organizations.

Also present were members of the Romanian delegation, headed by Comrade Andrei, candidate member of the Political Executive Committee of the RCP Central Committee and deputy prime minister. Stressing that the opening of the exhibition is a new important feature in the continual development of the traditonal ties of close friendship between our peoples and countries, between neighbors and friends, he conveyed warm greetings to the CPSU and to Comrade Gorbachev from the RCP and General Secretary Ceausescu. The exhibition is intended to reflect the successes of the fraternal country which is marking the 44th anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution and its social and national liberation.

A meeting took place in the Kremlin on the same day between Comrades Talyzin and Andrei. A luncheon was given in honor of the Romanian delegation.

Razumovskiy, CPCZ's Urbanek Hold Talks

LD2908224488 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Comrade Razumovskiy, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committeee, has met with Urbanek, member of the CPCZ

Central Committee and head of the Political Organization Department of the CPCZ Central Committee. They exchanged opinions during their warm and friendly conversation on questions of improving organizational party work.

CSSR Engineering Minister Visits Moscow

LD2908220388 Prague CTK in English 1910 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow Aug 29 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Minister of Metallurgy, Engineering and Electrical Engineering Ladislav Gerle today started talks with representatives of the Soviet Council of Ministers on further development of Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation in this sphere.

Ladislav Gerle met with Soviet First Deputy Premier, Chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee Yuriy Maslyukov for talks on topical questions of mutual exchange of goods in the years 1989-1990. The two representatives discussed mutual coordination of the national economic plans up to the year 1995.

Later in the day Ladislav Gerle met with Soviet Deputy Premiers Ivan Silayev, Igor Belousov and Gennadiy Vedenikov. The aim of the talks was to set the extent of cooperation of Czechoslovak and Soviet enterprises in the two countries' development of engineering and electrical engineering.

On the basis of agreements signed here these days it would be possible to set the production program of Czechoslovak engineering in greater detail and lay bases for its structural changes.

The new phenomena brought to the talks by the restructuring of the economic mechanism are reflected in the fact that the meetings of Ladislav Gerle with Soviet representatives are attended also by directors of important Czechoslovak enterprises.

Latin America & Caribbean

Gorbachev Congratulates Guyana's Jagan

PM2908114988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Second Edition p 1

[M.S. Gorbachev message of congratulations to Cheddi Jagan on his reelection as general secretary of the Guyana People's Progressive Party]

[Text] To Comrade Cheddi Jagan, general secretary of the People's Progressive Party of Guyana

Dear Comrade Cheddi Jagan!

Accept cordial congratulations on the occasion of your reelection to the post of general secretary of the People's Progressive Party of Guyana.

I wish you and all members of your party successful activity for the benefit of the Guyanese people and in the name of the triumph of the ideals of peace, democracy, and social progress.

With comradely greetings,

M. Gorbachev

Political & Social

Arctic City To Build Monument to Stalin Victims

LD2908183288 Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 29 TASS—A Soviet city within the Arctic Circle that was built mostly by political prisoners at Stalin's time is going to honor their memory with a monument, a Soviet newspaper reported today.

The daily IZVESTIYA said the city of Vorkuta in the autonomous republic of Komi and the Severo-Pechorskaya railway running to it were built largely by victims of Stalin's repressive measures, many of whom died working there.

The precise number of those people who were condemned to labor camps, even though they had not committed any crime, is practically impossible to ascertain now.

But the Vorkuta City Council has formed a special commission to establish the names of as many such people as possible today.

The commission includes some of the first builders of the city, party and young Communist workers, journalists, factory and office workers and intellectuals.

An account (No 70051) has been opened at the Vorkuta branch of the National Industrial Construction Bank to raise funds for the monument.

Militia Holds Briefing on Pushkin Square Rally

PM3008082088 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 88 p 1

[Ye. Lobanova report: "38 Petrovka Reports"]

[Text] It is entirely natural that many journalists at the briefing held yesterday at 38 Petrovka [Moscow militia headquarters] were interested in questions connected with the rally which was held, despite the bans, by the "Democratic Union" in Pushkin Square last Sunday. Yes, it must be admitted frankly, the capital's militia is in a difficult position today. Informal groups, leagues, and formations are taking to the streets with placards and slogans. Large crowds gather in the city center. How should the law enforcement organs operate here? How can undesirable excesses be prevented? Incidentally, 21 August was not without such excesses. Each case is being investigated.

There is also another, very urgent problem. Thefts from apartments. The number is steadily growing in Moscow. An open window, a door not firmly shut (or sometimes not closed at all, because of the occupiers' carelessness).... The Moscow criminal investigation department has recently solved 119 thefts from apartments. The vast majority of the criminals are young people, often without work—parasites, as they are called.

Our newspaper has written repeatedly about the problems of former convicts who, on returning home, cannot find work or obtain a residence permit and thus begin a new, normal life. It is gratifying that there has been some progress in resolving this question. It is proposed that in the near future many restrictions will be lifted on residence permits in Moscow for people who have served sentences. It is necessary to trust people, especially if they are young, and help them to go straight and break with the past forever.

Authorities' Actions Defended

PM3008095688 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 27 Aug 88 p 7

[Untitled "Editorial Office Commentary"]

[Text] Our correspondent was in Pushkin Square before the events that took place there on Sunday, 21 August. A number of central newspapers have already reported that the group demagogically calling itself the "Democratic Union," without having obtained permission from Moscow Gorispolkom to hold a rally "devoted to the 20th anniversary of the sending of troops from the Warsaw Pact countries into Czechoslovakia," openly violated the law and decided to hold the rally.

The organs of law and order were forced to expel those taking part in the rally from the square, and a number of people were arrested by the militia.

After the appearance in the press of reports about this event, readers began to telephone our editorial office, some of them expressing perplexity over the actions of the authorities and the press coverage of this event. In the callers' opinion, the incident in Pushkin Square calls into question the process of democratization and the course of restructuring. In connection with these calls the editorial office considers it necessary to clarify its own attitude to the event.

No one is encroaching on the right of citizens to calmly discuss problems that concern them—and that is clear from the reportage published above [the paper carries on the same page a 2,000-word item described as an "Impartial Reportage" on the Pushkin Square events]. But when a noisy demonstration is organized in this square contrary to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree laying down the procedure for organizing and holding such rallies, then it is a question of breaking the law.

That is the only way to assess the actions of the organizers of the rally. What were these people hoping for? A sensation. This is what restructuring means, they were saying.

But let us ask them, and ourselves: Where, in what country, do society and the authorities look on calmly as the threshold of the law is overstepped? There may be different attitudes to the decision by the ispolkom to ban the rally. But the ispolkom is the authority that we ourselves have entrusted with the execution of the law. Does it befit us to call into question the need to observe the rule of law, we who talk so much today about the state based on the rule of law? Or to condemn the militia, which acted within the limits of its instructions in upholding the law?

Of course, the situation is so unusual for us that even the militia has begun to count its "industrial injuries"....

We are learning democracy. Sometimes we suffer bumps and bruises. But democracy is not permissiveness. And everyone must respect the law. People are still meeting and speaking in the square. Evidence of this is provided by a photo taken by our photographer after that ill-fated Sunday.

Armenian-Russian Cultural Society Established

LD3008050088 Moscow TASS in English 2253 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 29 TASS—The Armenian-Russian cultural enlightenment society, Yusisapail—Northern Lights—was founded in Moscow. Its registration was held here today.

Under its charter, the new society is an international independently acting organisation uniting representatives of the intelligentsia, workers and peasants, who want to make their contribution to strengthening cultural ties between the Russian and Armenian peoples.

"The Armenian-Russian ties have a centuries-old history", Veniamin Kaverin, a well-known Soviet writer and member of the society's council, told TASS. Kaverin has had links with the Armenian literature for many decades. Back in the 30s, he met outstanding poet Yegishe Cherents and other classics of the national literature. "One of our plans is the holding of social functions devoted to personalities of the Russian and Armenian culture, exhibitions, sponsoring of the publication of works dealing with ties between the two peoples".

The society is named in honour of the Armenian monthly magazine YUSISAPAIL (Northern Lights), which was brought out in the Armenian language in Moscow in 1858-1864. This monthly played an immense role in developing the Armenian literature and public thought, cementing friendship between the two nations. Michael Nalbandyan (1829-1866), a prominent Armenian revolutionary democrat, associate of Chernyshevsky, friend of Gertsen, Ogarev and Turgenev, was one of its active staffers.

Education Official on Armenians in Stepanakert

LD2908225188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Preparations for another event—a new school year—are drawing to a close. Our correspondent Sergey Omelchenko talked to Gamlet Amayakovich Basryan, chief of the Stepanakert Education Department.

[Begin recording] [Basryan] [Passage omitted] The upcoming school year is unusual because many Armenian families have arrived in Stepanakert from various rayons of the republic. Our schools had been full enough without that. Over the last 14-15 years the number of schools in Stepanakert has not increased, which resulted in a large disproportion between the number of pupils and the actual capacity of our classrooms. Now we have to place 40 to 45 kids in elementary school classrooms designed for 30 pupils. This upsets the general educational process and affects the quality of work.

[Omelchenko] Gamlet Amayakovich, the fact that four languages—Russian, Armenian, Azeri, and a foreign one—are being taught at once in Stepanakert and the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast is another feature of your educational process. How are you coping with these multilingual difficulties?

[Basryan] I think it is clear to everybody that to learn one language is hard enough, let alone four. It is very difficult for a child of 9 or 10. Whereas earlier we used to teach four languages in Armenian schools, now we are guided by the principle included in the regulations for national education and the charter of general education schools, which stipulates that the language of another people can be studied on a voluntary basis. This year we are going to organize this in the following manner: The language of another people is taught on a voluntary basis. Classes will be set up for those who wish to learn it, and those who cannot will not be taught it. At the same time, I would like to say that in the last few years, unfortunately, the history of the Armenian people has not been studied in general, in the town or oblast's Armenian schools. It has been studied sporadically. Beginning this year, this subject will be compulsory in all schools in both the town and the oblast. We have textbooks; we have received them in sufficient quantity. I think that every people, every Soviet citizen, should know not only the history of the USSR but also the history of his people and his land. [end recording]

Further on Radio Liberty 'Fact-Juggling'

PM2908182988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS correspondent V. Itkin report: "How 'Liberty' Reads IZVESTIYA]

[Text] A. Katusev, USSR deputy prosecutor general, gave an interview to a TASS correspondent on the course of the investigation into events in Sumgait. This interview was published in IZVESTIYA. "Liberty" quotes as follows:

"The 94 people arrested in this case include workers from the security organs and that is why it is difficult to determine who is guilty of murdering 32 people."

But if we turn to IZVESTIYA's material, we will see that the title of the organization for which the radio station's staffers nurture special feelings is mentioned only once in the following context: "Given the nature of the case, its heightened sociopolitical significance, and the amount of work, an investigative operations group has been set up incorporating the most skilled investigators from the Prosecutor's Office, the KGB, and the USSR MVD." Yes, "Liberty" is indeed not indifferent to Soviet security organs, turning investigators into defendants.

Then "Liberty" announces in a new bout of unrestrained fabrication: "The prosecutor general's bureau has brought to trial the case of the military representatives who did not fulfill their duties." First, the prosecutor's office does not have and has never had a bureau. Second, no one has brought to trial so-called "military representatives."

A. Katusev, USSR deputy prosecutor general, stated the following apropos this falsification: "I said in my interview that during these tragic days for Sumgait militia workers who were unable to take prompt resolute steps to restore order and protect citizens' security under the emergency conditions did indeed prove unequal to the occasion. However, we do not have a single example at our disposal of illegal actions by militia staffers and other law-enforcement organs. The prosecutor's office began the investigation on the basis of Article 169 of the Azerbaijan SSR Criminal Code, which envisages liability for manifest negligence."

The fact-juggling is obvious.

Ukrainian Central Committee Holds Kiev Seminar

AU2908180488 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 25 Aug 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Excerpts] A responsible political campaign, accountability reports, and elections have begun in the republic's party organizations. Most meetings held in party groups and shop party organizations have been remarkable for the democratic atmosphere, their critical tendency, and their collectivism in selecting the ways and means to improve the situation. The discussions on topical problems concerning restructuring are intense.

Meetings will be held in more than 135,000 party groups, as well as in 74,000 shop and 71,000 basic party organizations. Conferences in 704 rayon and city party organizations will be held in November. The accountability reports and elections will be completed with conferences in 25 oblast and Kiev city party organizations.

Questions concerning preparations for and carrying out the accountability and election campaign, and the campaign's impact on the further democratization of the entire internal party life were examined at a seminar held in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Headquarters with the participation of obkom second secretaries and secretaries in charge of organizational party work; chiefs and deputy chiefs of obkom and Kiev Gorkom organizational party work sections; and press, radio, and television workers. The seminar was chaired by A.A. Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary.

A.D. Pelikh, chief of the Organizational Party Work Department in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report.

Representatives of all obkoms and of Kiev Obkom participated in a broad exchange of opinions. [passage omitted]

The participants in the seminar generalized positive experiences and exposed characteristic shortcomings manifested in preparations for and during the initial meetings. [passage omitted]

The great role of the mass media in ensuring glasnost in the campaign was noted. [passage omitted]

V.S. Babichev, chief of the Organizational Party Work Department in the CPSU Central Committee, and V.I. Nakonachnyy, sector chief in the aforementioned department, addressed the conference and answered questions. A.A. Rudkov, department instructor in the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the seminar proceedings.

The participants in the seminar familiarized themselves with work experience in Kiev Gorkom and in party committees at a number of Kiev industrial enterprises.

Efforts To Fight Pollution in Ukraine Viewed

AU2908170188 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 27 Aug 88 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian SSR Procurator's Office"]

[Text] Questions on complying with environmental protection legislation in the republic and the state of procurators' supervision in this sphere were examined at a recent expanded session of the board of the Ukrainian SSR Prosecutor's Office, with the participation of leaders of a number of the republic's ministries and departments.

It was noted that many ministries, departments, and environmental protection organs had failed to ensure that the laws protecting the environment are properly complied with. The republic's industrial enterprises discharge many harmful substances into the atmosphere. Because of the inadequate use of the existing purifying

equipment, gas and dust discharges are particularly large at ferrous and non-ferrous industries and power enterprises. In individual cities, particularly in Zaporozhye, Makeyevka, Donetsk, Zhdanov, Dnepropetrovsk, and Krivoy Rog, the content of harmful substances in the atmosphere has exceeded the permissible limits of consideration. Too little has been done to prevent air pollution by motor transportation run by the republic's State Agro-Industrial Committee, the Ministries of Consumer Services, and Highroad Construction and Maintenance. Inspections in Vinnitsa, Zhitomir, Yevpatoria, Kiev, Khmelnitskiy, and Yalta have proved motor transportation to be the main source of pollution.

The utilization and protection of the republic's water resources remains strained. The pollution of the Azov and Black Seas, of the Dnepr, the Dnestr, and the Southern Bug is continuing. More than 1 billion cubic meters of polluted drainage were discharged last year into water reservoirs, mostly by the enterprises of the republic's Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services, the State Agro-Industrial Committee, and the ferrous industry. Subsoil water is getting increasingly polluted, particularly in Crimean, Lvov, Odessa, and Kherson Oblasts.

The session noted that in recent times water has been very frequently polluted by accidental discharges of sewage. As a result, an unfavorable situation has emerged on the seashores of Zaporozhye, Donetsk, Nikolayev, Odessa, and Kherson Oblasts. Many purifying facilities are ineffective and need major repairs. At the same time the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services is not taking steps to speed up the reconstruction of water draining facilities and is not assisting local organs in this work. The republic's production and scientific association for agro-chemical services in agriculture has failed to meet legal requirements for protecting the environment against pollution from fertilizers and toxic materials. Regulations for storing and applying agricultural chemicals are being disregarded in most oblasts. In a number of cases, prosecution organs have instituted proceedings and are investigating the criminal pollution of the environment.

Nature-protecting organs have failed to make full use of their commissions in exerting state control over the utilization and protection of subsoil and drain waters, of the air, and land. They do not always bring trespassing enterprises to account, they do not always send materials about the violation of nature-protecting laws to the procurator's office, nor do they endeavor to eliminate the causes of and conditions for polluting the environment.

On the other hand, procurators—particularly in Voroshilovgrad, Zaporozhye, and Poltava Oblasts, in Makeyevka, Donetsk Oblast, the inter-rayon procurator in Zhdanov, and a number of others—do not make proper efforts to bring more legality into the sphere of environmental protection. Many prosecutors are inadequately supervising the way ecological control organs comply with the law. In a number of cases they only superficially check into the compliance with environmental protection legislation, do not expose the causes of infringements, and do not bring the culprits to account.

V.F. Skupchenko, chief of the water draining facilities administration in the Ukrainian Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, and V.F Tsifir, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Committee for Agricultural Chemistry, were warned at the session against the intolerable violation of the laws protecting the environment.

Measures were drawn up to tighten control over the compliance with environmental protection legislation and to render procuratorship and environmental protection organs more efficient in their common efforts to prevent offenses and bring the culprits to account.

Comparison of Report on 23 Aug Lithuania Rally

Vilnius in Lithuanian to North America at 0000 GMT on 25 August broadcasts a report on the anniversary of the 23 August 1939 signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact. This report has been compared to the version carried by Vilnius in English to North America at 2200 GMT on 24 August, published in the 25 August Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages 21-23, under the headline "Further on 23 Aug Rally in Lithuania," and has been found to be identical except for the following:

Page 22, column one, paragraph two, last line, the Lithuanian version reads: "...nations. [end recording]

"Justinas Marcinkevicius made the following demands:

"[Begin Marcinkevicius recording] 1. The Molotov-Ribbentrop pact, its secret protocols, and its maps must be published in the Soviet all-union press. The pact should be denounced as a shameless violation of the principles of international law, peace, and humanity, and for its violation of treaties and agreements.

"2. The period of time during which documents must remain secret should be defined by law. This period must be the same as that accepted in democratic countries of the world.

"3. Doors of all archives must be opened to scientists, writers, journalists, and to anyone who is interested in history.

"4. An additional volume of sources on the history of the Lithuanian SSR should be published, containing material on the most recent history of our country as well as material on political and ideological force.

"5. A new curriculum and a textbook of Lithuanian history for secondary schools must be prepared as soon as possible. [end recording]

"[Announcer] A large part..." (replacing column one, paragraph three, first sentence announcer-read portion with Marcinkevicius recording, supplying additional material)

Ligachev Views Slow Progress on Tolstoy Museum
PM3008124788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Aug 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Yasnaya Polyana Belongs to the Nation. Conference at the CPSU Central Committee."]

[Text] A conference was held at the CPSU Central Committee 26 August. It considered the progress in carrying out the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee on the preservation and development of the country house museum of Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy at Yasnaya Polyana.

Opening the conference, Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted that historical and cultural monuments carry within themselves the living contact and continuity of the generations and help to form high moral ideals. Great importance was attached to these matters at the 19th all-union party conference. The country house museum at Yasnaya Polyana in Tula Oblast is of enormous value for our people. The public demands the fulfillment of the planned measures to restore the museum and improve the ecological situation in the area.

At the CPSU Central Committee reports were heard from Ananyev, chairman of Tula Oblispolkom; Tabeyev, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; Shkurko, RSFSR first deputy minister of culture; Morgun, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Protection of Nature; Kozhevnikov, USSR first deputy minister for mineral fertilizer production; and Sedunov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometerology and Environmental Control. The conference was also addressed by Zakharov, USSR minister of culture; Tyatskin, director of the state memorial and nature preserve and country house museum of Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy at Yasnaya Polyana; Litvintsev, first secretary of Tula Obkom; and Bondarev, secretary of the Board of the USSR Union of Writers.

It was noted that in accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee nature conservation measures and restoration and repair work are being carried out in the grounds of the preserve. A general plan for the preserve has been drawn up. The character of production facilities at Shchekino Chemical Association is being altered to the output of products which do not have a harmful effect on the environment. In the preserve and its conservation zone a large amount of forest management work has been carried out, ponds have been restored, a number of memorial installations have been restored, and the necessary lines of communication have been laid directly in the grounds of the country house museum.

However, not everything has yet been done, which is causing concern. Enterprises operating in the vicinity of the Yasnaya Polyana country house museum are at times violating technological standards and are emitting harmful waste into the atmosphere. Restoration work is being carried out with violations of the stipulated timetable and with low quality. The question of the construction of a museum excursion center has still not been resolved for the country house museum.

The results of the conference were summed up by Comrade Ligachev. He stressed that the measures adopted are having a positive effect on the preserved territory at Yasnaya Polyana. Changes for the better are noticeable there in all regards. However, the ministries and departments and those immediately in charge have not ensured the certain fulfillment of the decisions that have been adopted. This is inadmissible. The USSR Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, and the RSFSR Ministry of Culture were subjected to criticism. It was noted that in the work of party, soviet, and economic bodies in Tula Oblast there is also insufficient keenness and an insufficiently businesslike approach to resolving practical tasks relating to the preservation and further development of the Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy country house museum. The Tolstoy country house museum at Yasnaya Polyana belongs to the nation and is a monument of world significance.

Comrade Ligachev noted that the decisions that have been adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and the government must be fully implemented. There will be a strict demand for this. Taking account of public opinion, a decision ought to be adopted in the very near future on the siting of the museum excursion complex, and its construction, which has been so delayed, should finally be started. It is very important to enhance the standard of restoration work in the grounds of the museum. It is a matter of honor for the RSFSR Ministry of Culture, the RSFSR Union of Writers, and Tula Obkom to ensure a high level of excursion work at Yasnaya Polyana and propaganda concering the literary heritage of Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy.

Baklanov Visits Aircraft Plant, Views Airliners
PM2908182588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "For Air Routes"]

[Text] Supplying Aeroflot with new, highly economical, reliable, and comfortable airliners meeting modern world standards is the task set by the 27th CPSU Congress to aircraft industry design and production

collectives. The long-range IL-96-300 airliner and the IL-114 feeder-route airliner, which should enter service in 1990-91, are being developed to meet it.

On 24 August O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, viewed the state of affairs at Moscow's S.V. Ilyushin Machine-Building Plant concerning flight tests of the IL-96-300 and the progress of work on the IL-114. A report on these matters was made by Academician G.V. Novozhilov, general designer. The conference participants familiarized themselves in the laboratories and at testing areas with the progress of ground tests on the aircraft designs and the development of their most important units, systems, and equipment. The development workers' attention was drawn to the need to increase the pace of work in order to unconditionally fulfill the service-entry deadline laid down for these aircraft. Specific measures were outlined for accelerating the start of test flights of the aircraft and for manufacturing experimental airliners and preparing them for series production.

In conversations with the plant's designers, engineers, and workers, O.D. Baklanov inquired about the organization of the fulfillment of the resolutions of the 19th all-union party conference and the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum. Particular attention was devoted to the priority tasks linked with resolving social issues, and to the plant collective's contribution to consumer goods production and the development of the sphere of providing paid services to the population.

O.D. Baklanov was accompanied by senior officials from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, and a number of ministries and departments.

Nature of Law, 'Legal State' Discussed

PM2908132588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Aug 88 Second Edition pp 1-2

[Roundtable at the USSR Academy of Sciences State and Law Institute chaired by G. Ovcharenko: "The Legal State: What Should It Be Like?"; date not given]

[Text] The resolutions of the 19th all-union party conference and the resolution of the recent CPSU Central Committee plenum call the formation of a socialist legal state a matter of fundamental importance. To tackle this task it is necessary to establish constitutional guarantees of the irreversibility of restructuring, assert in our society the primacy and supremacy of the law expressing the people's will, intensify protection of everyone's rights, interests, and freedoms, and place the actions of state and party bodies, public organizations, and labor collectives on a strictly legal footing.

To be frank, it is not the easiest of tasks, if you consider the existing distortions and perversions in legal life. So what must be done where, in order to establish a socialist legal state? What must be done to enable the soviets to put this program into practice?

It is a fundamental question because, as M.S. Gorbachev said at the CPSU Central Committee plenum: "Legal reform is closely linked to the democratization of the soviets' activity."

This was discussed at the USSR Academy of Sciences State and Law Institute at a PRAVDA roundtable meeting. Participating in the conversation were: USSR Academy of Sciences Academician V.N. Kudryavtsev; Doctor of Juridical Sciences Professor S.N. Bratus (All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Soviet Legislation); V.D. Zorkin (USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs Academy); and V. Ye. Guliyev, V.P. Kazimirchuk, V.M. Savitskiy, and V.A. Tumanov (USSR Academy of Sciences State and Law Institute).

G. Ovcharenko: Many PRAVDA readers have noted that our party has proclaimed the formation of a socialist legal state as a practical task for the first time. Some people have even written in and asked: Does this not mean that hitherto we have been living in a nonlegal state?

V. Guliyev: That is not quite the right way to put it. Certainly we have had laws. But we have had lawlessness too. You only have to remember the years of the personality cult and stagnation. And there has been an abundance of lawbreaking in our time as well.

V. Zorkin: The idea of the legal state, in my opinion, is not confined directly to a particular level of legality. It presupposes other most important aspects also.

G. Ovcharenko: Let's start by trying to determine the nature of a socialist legal state. Incidentally, G. Zabolotskiy from Vilnius, A. Kuliyev from Baku, and many other readers have asked about this.

V. Kudryavtsev: Only a state characterized by mutual, I stress, mutual responsibility shared by the state and all those people (citizens and their organizations and associations) who have relations with it regulated by law can be described as a legal state. In other words, whereas today it is mainly government organs that can make complaints to citizens and their organizations, in a legal state every one of us, our institutes, enterprises, and kolkhozes, can complain to the state and its administrative organs if they do not fulfill their obligations. Incidentally, such provision has already been made in the Law on the State Enterprise.

V. Guliyev: Constructing such a state is a difficult matter. Let us not forget that the bourgeois "rule of law" (with all its pluses and minuses) took shape over centuries. History has not given us such a long time. We must, evidently, create a legal state in the next few years.

Let us be frank: There is as yet no firm legal order in the country, no stable law and order. Today in many respects we still have the political and legal structure that V.

Gilyarovskiy described at the beginning of the century as follows: "In Russia there are two disasters: below—the power of darkness, above—the darkness of power!"

V. Tumanov: No, the situation is changing and has changed rapidly in the last 3 years. I do not agree with people who say that we don't have any of the characteristics of a legal state and that we must start everything from scratch. The steps taken after the 20th party congress heralded a qualitative break with the lawlessness of Stalinism and have played their role. The decisions of the 22d congress were also prepared on the wave of democratization but this wave crashed against the dam of stagnation. Stagnation struck legality with tremendous force, in particular because the party apparatus, and then the administrative-managerial apparatus elite, proved to be beyond all control, including legal control.

G. Ovcharenko: PRAVDA has already written reports on what needs to be done to democratize the system of justice. In particular, it has been proposed to review the procedure for electing judges, assign investigations to an independent structure, admit lawyers to early stages of the investigation, increase the number of people's assessors during the court's examination of most complex cases, and increase supervision by the prosecutor's office. Many of these proposals were mirrored in the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference and the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum. In your opinion, what else is necessary to create a legal state?

V. Kazimirchuk: We often say from force of habit that our laws express the will of the people. But what do we mean by this? Hitherto, it has meant either departmental interests or interested groups who cannot by any means be described as the people. Even a number of recent laws affecting the interests of the peoples as a whole were not submitted to nationwide discussion but were instead adopted by the apparatus. As a result an unprecedented event occurred at a session of the Supreme Soviet when deputies actively criticized certain provisions of the draft Law on the Procedure for Appealing to the Courts Against Illegal Actions by Officials. However—that's the inertia of stagnation for you!—it was adopted nonetheless and then had the finishing touches put to it—again by the apparatus. Or take the Law on Individual Labor Activity, which is also a mass of imperfections.

V. Tumanov: I think that this lack of democracy in elaborating and adopting laws is the result of a concept that was current in science: There's no need to work out the law in detail and turn it into a directive. People say that life itself will fill it out with details. But it was not life but departments that did this, nullifying the very idea of the law and rendering it null and void through a multitude of illegal acts. It turned out that directives replaced the law. Here is a graphic example. All the articles in the Civil Code on retail buying and selling in stores contain points enabling the Ministry of Trade to make its own interpretation of the law on this buying and selling. The Ministry of Trade does not interpret these points in the interests of people but in the interests of its own department. Take the recently adopted Law on the State Enterprise. For some months ministries and departments beset it with so many directives that economic managers affirm with one voice that the law is null and void!

V. Zorkin: The situation is indeed paradoxical: Until a law or a most important normative act is announced around the ministry by ministerial command, this law or act is an empty phrase for any ministry staffer. Without the minister's command it is null and void as it were.

S. Bratus: Legal order must be restored to norm-creating activity. In order to do this the bounds of competence of high-ranking organs of power must be clearly defined so that they operate on the basis of laws adopted by the Supreme Soviet. For instance, a law is adopted but the Council of Ministers promulgates acts straightaway that contravene it.

V. Guliyev: I sometimes get the impression that the Council of Ministers is all in all an organ above the law. For instance, why has it given itself the right to change holidays and nonworking days that are fixed by law? In my opinion, a whole system of law evasion was elaborated in our country in the past. This is seen in the fact that the government delegates its norm-creating powers to ministries and departments. This is not as harmless as it may appear. Remember how many economic managers and kolkhoz chairman there were whose careers were ruined by all manner of prohibitive departmental directives?!

G. Ovcharenko: So what specifically then needs to be done in order to ensure that valid laws of the very highest caliber are adopted and to bar departmental directives and democratize the lawmaking procedure itself?

V. Savitskiy: First and foremost the most important draft laws must be submitted to nationwide discussion and extensively debated at Supreme Soviet sessions, and people must not be afraid to delay the draft law for finishing touches.

V. Kazimirchuk: A USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium council of experts or a scientific consultative organ consisting of qualified lawyers must be organized. They would give their conclusions on the draft's suitability from the juridical viewpoint, its linkage with other laws, and so on. But it can happen—as was the case with the laws on unearned income and on individual labor activity—that laws contravene one another and as a result citizens' rights and freedoms suffer.

G. Ovcharenko: The party conference resolutions describe the boosting of the role of the courts in the system of socialist democracy as an important task of restructuring. What does this mean?

V. Tumanov: Above all, in my opinion, the broadening of the sphere of judicial protection for citizens' rights and legal interests. As an example, take the purpose of the pension. This act which sums up a man's entire working life is not merely a material but also, if you will, a moral assessment of his life. If a citizen considers that he has been insulted and thinks that he has been allotted an unjust pension, he must have the right to appeal to a court. Only then can the situation that has taken shape be fairly assessed. At present, alas, this right does not exist in our country—just as rights for a host of other issue do not exist.

S. Bratus: I agree. The courts must be the main tool for implementing legal order not only in the sphere of property and personal relations but also in all other socioeconomic spheres. Only a judgment based on the independence of the court may ensure true legality in all relations. But the courts need to be radically reorganized for this.

G. Ovcharenko: In other words, broadening judicial jurisdiction will also make it possible to make fuller use of the provision of the party conference which says that the state also has responsibility to its citizens. So?

V. Savitskiy: Quite correct. A legal state's calling card is its responsibility toward its citizens. Unfortunately, for a long time this principle remained and still is forgotten. Here is one shining example of this. Practically every Soviet citizen pays a tax out of his own pocket to maintain the state apparatus, including law-enforcement organs, in order for them to protect his person and his property from lawbreakers, especially criminals. Unfortunately, this is not always successful—the crime rate is still high. How should the state act toward a citizen whose security it was unable to ensure? In my opinion, it should above all compensate him for his property losses, then look for the criminal, and fill the state coffers at his expense. Alas, at present this is only done with people paying alimony. Why not extend this principle to cases where, say, people have robbed an apartment or stolen an automobile?... I would like to stress that in a legal state, where one principle is to protect the citizen by a system of guarantees of personal, family, and property security, priority must always be given when adopting a law to the decision which most helps to defend the individual's rights and freedoms.

G. Ovcharenko: I would like to have an answer to a question which—judging by the editorial mailbag—is worrying many readers. In practice how are we to understand and employ the principle emphasized in party documents that everything is permitted that is not prohibited by law?

V. Tumanov: Here I would like to draw particular attention to the word "law." It is absolutely necessary that law in this context be understood in the strictly constitutional meaning of this concept, that is, exclusively as an act adopted by the supreme organ of state power. It often happens in everyday life and in the press that the word loses its real significance as a result of the muddle of prohibitions that characterize departmental and local norm creation today.

V. Kudryavtsev: The point is that if this formula is extended to all government organs, establishments, and officials in general, arbitrary rule will ensue: Any of them will do everything that "is not banned" in respect to their subordinates. For instance, a ministry in respect to an enterprise. That is why, strictly speaking, this wording must only be extended to citizens and economic organizations in industry and agriculture. As for government organs and officials, they have competence which they are not entitled to exceed.

G. Ovcharenko: However, in life we often see this legal principle governing the activity of administrative organs, party and soviet organs, and officials being violated quite often. How can this be prevented?

V. Savitskiy: A legal state is based on the principle of clear separation of competence within the various spheres—legislative, executive, and judiciary. At present there are no clear boundaries in our country. Often legislative authorities unceremoniously interfere in judicial activity. For instance, when the USSR prosecutor general applies to the Supreme Soviet Presidium for permission to extend the term for holding a defendant in custody (this is not envisaged by law). They generally get permission. Evidently, it should be the judiciary that resolves this question. The principle of separation of functions in a legal state must be religiously complied with, otherwise there will be no real possibility of defending citizens' rights and interests.

You often, especially at local level, come across instances where, say, the party raykom forces the representatives of the executive or the judiciary to adopt decisions that suit it. This practice, as was stressed at the party conference, is incompatible with the idea of a legal state.

G. Ovcharenko: In our opinion, cases where people try to "lead astray" Communists from their legal responsibility, especially those holding a judicial position, are intolerable. Yet this is still happening....

V. Savitskiy: Lenin thought that a Communist should be held more strictly to account than a nonparty member. Attempts to save these people from their just desserts must be strictly curbed.

G. Ovcharenko: I have the following question. Democratization outside the law is a form of anarchy. Inclining one-sidedly toward the sphere of rights and freedoms while underestimating individuals' and departments' duties may inflict a blow above all on those very rights and freedoms. However, many ordinary citizens and officials have a poor idea not only of their rights but also

of their obligations. In this connection the party conference and the CPSU Central Committee plenum set the task of providing universal legal education. How is this being resolved?

V. Zorkin: This is a very important question. Each citizen must be taught to fight for his rights. But how can this happen if there is not enough juridical literature even for the specialists? There is a serious lacuna here. Evidently the time has come—as has already been said on several occasions from various rostrums and in the press—to set up a juridical newspaper. The main thing here is for the newspaper to satisfy the interests not of law-enforcement organs but of the people. People must be taught to live in a legal state and for this every citizen must have some legal knowledge.

V. Guliyev: Universal legal education will become a reality provided that there is universal political education in the spirit of democracy. And provided that everyone, above all the representatives of the authorities, realizes that the party, the state, the trade unions, and so forth are no more than institutions under society's jurisdiction and by no means hold sway over society. Failing this, "purely legal" universal education will be merely a juridical apology for anti-democratism.

V. Kudryavtsev: To conclude the discussion, I want to stress that the way to a socialist legal state is not easy. Some people who are frightened by the obstacles on this path may want to stop halfway or even go backward. But this must not be allowed under any circumstances, since it would mean the end of restructuring and the end of the humanization and democratization of our society. The decisions of the 19th all-union party conference and the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum show that the party and the people have embarked on a road from which they must not deviate.

Komsomol Seeks To Promote Youth Harvest Work

PM3008095488 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 88 p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "The Harvest Gold Reserve": "At the Komsomol Central Committee: Work Will Be Measured by the Harvest"]

[Text] The Komsomol Central Committee Secretariat has adopted a resolution "On Tasks on the Participation of Komsomol Organizations in the Completion of the Harvest and Procurement of Agricultural Produce."

This year a strained situation in harvesting and feed procurement has arisen in many regions of the country due to difficult weather conditions.

In this situation additional measures are being adopted to ensure the timely, high-quality completion of agricultural work. Additional workers and employees from cities and rayon centers; VUZ students; and students at secondary specialized educational institutions, vocational and technical colleges, and schools are being sent to the kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The circumstances that have arisen require the Komsomol organizations to adopt resolute measures to widely involve Komsomol members and young people in harvesting and feed procurement work.

The Komsomol Central Committee Secretariat resolves:

1. The Komsomol Central Committees of union republics and Komsomol kraykoms, obkoms, gorkoms, raykoms, and committees are to help young people to correctly assess the full complexity and tension of the situation in agriculture and appeal to young men and women to give effective assistance to kolkhozes and sovkhozes to ensure the accelerated, high-quality completion of harvesting work and the preservation and rational utilization of the agricultural produce that has been grown.

2. Komsomol committees are to implement measures to send additional young men and women to join in harvesting work. It is deemed expedient to set up harvesting and feed procurement detachments, jointly with agro-industrial committees and other interested economic organs, consisting of Komsomol members and young people from cities and rayon centers on a contract basis, making use of the available experience of student and Komsomol youth detachments, and to bring in Komsomol members and young people widely in their free time from studies and work and on days off.

The staffs of student detachments are to be permitted to conclude contracts applicable to the summertime for detachments made up of students and pupils having vacations in the fall period.

Komsomol committees are to take organizational and political work to the sectors of the harvest conveyor, constantly monitor the state of affairs in youth collectives and student agriculture detachments, and give effective assistance in organizing production activity and sociopolitical work.

Particular attention should be paid to the creation of the necessary conditions for highly productive labor, well-appointed living conditions, and leisure for Komsomol members and young people employed in harvesting and feed procurement, without permitting a consumerist attitude in their labor.

3. Efforts are to be concentrated on the development of labor activeness among young workers and students and on the organization of an informal rivalry among them to achieve the highest labor productivity and high-quality work. It is important for every collective and young participant in the harvest to have a clear idea of the tasks they have to resolve.

Wide use should be made of various forms of moral and material incentives, Lenin Komsomol awards, souvenir prizes, valuable gifts, and concessionary tourist passes from the Komsomol Central Committee Sputnik International Youth Tourism Bureau.

4. Young people's mass media should give wide coverage to the participation of young men and women in the harvest, support interesting initiatives and ventures, and uncover shortcomings promptly and react to them sharply.

Chu Valley Narcotic Plant Eradication Examined

PM2908185388 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 19 Aug 88 p 4

[Report by TASS correspondents A. Sandybayev and I. Cherepanov under the rubric "Important Question": "To Eradicate the Narcotic Grass!"]

[Text] Chu/Dzhambul/Alma-Ata—V. Kolyunin, a resident of Orsk, certainly showed himself to be no dilettante as regards botany in the Chu Valley's rich variety of steppe grasses. Even in pitch darkness the "amateur naturalist" could find the leaves of cannabis sativa (to use the Latin name)—an annual oil-yielding plant, which the people call hemp. Kolyunin will pay for his hobby, which has already put him in the dock once before, with several more years' imprisonment.

Not so long ago the stories of worldly wise travelers about the local militia's negligence attracted slick operators who considered—and quite reasonably so—a journey to the "valley of reveries" a pleasure trip. Such it was. But now such a trip can cost a conviction. Times are changing: Militia and public forces have drawn up and are implementing operation "Poppy-88." State Automobile Inspectorate employees and members of the people's voluntary militia have mounted pickets to reliably bar all the highways and railroads that pass through Chuyskiy Rayon and adjacent rayons. Dozens of blocking posts have been set up near hemp "plots." A vast territory, which would swallow up several European states, is patrolled from the air and on the ground by search groups. The subunits involved in this operation have at their disposal means of radio and teletype communication and night vision devices.

"This entire interconnected monitoring system functions flawlessly," said Militia Major A. Mukhamedzhanov, deputy chief of the Kazakh SSR MVD Department for Combatting Drug Addiction. "Since the beginning of the year almost 140 criminal cases have been brought in Dzhambul Oblast alone. Perhaps this number could have been twice as large, but few people now have any illusions about militia negligence. And yet it is impossible to stop drug addicts wanting to visit these places by punitive measures alone. What is needed is assistance from botanists and the republic Gosagroprom."

The decree "On the Administrative Liability of Citizens and Officials for Failing To Take Measures To Destroy Wild Hemp," approved by the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium 2 years ago, stirred up the public. At that time republic and oblast newspapers were full of reports about hundreds of hectares of the stupefying weeds laid low. This process seemed to have acquired an irreversible nature. But soon the tone of editorials changed. Isolated examples of compliance with the important document were countered by the mass passivity of sovkhoz and kolkhoz leaders. Neither fines nor administrative penalties could influence the situation any longer.

A campaign against the narcotic grass had indeed been proclaimed officially, from high rostrums. But farms bore the entire burden of the responsibility for carrying it out. People in the upper agro-industrial committee echelons had not given a thought to the fact that at a busy time for rural people there is no more important task than sowing, harvesting, and haymaking. So kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders were faced with a dilemma: Either get a reprimand for ignoring the decree but gather in the grain and procure feed on time, or fail to meet the target and fall into disfavor with the oblast agro-industrial committee. This is why, on reporting to the rayon chiefs the progress in destroying the narcotic grass, directors and chairmen, who are on the whole adults, are forced to be not entirely frank. The arithmetic is simple: Grasses have been cut on 100 hectares of natural plots, which means that hemp has also been destroyed over the same area. But who needs such a system of figure padding? For it is also possible to do without it. For example, to try to create combined mechanized detachments for this purpose. Are several farms really not capable of this in cooperation with each other? It is simply incredible: Out of 1.5 million hectares littered with hemp in Dzhambul Oblast, less than 10,000 have been worked over. And this is just on the large tracts where equipment can be used. And who paid attention, let us say, to the "islets" of hemp growing along country roads and in neglected deserts?

If local soviets are active, let us assume, it is possible to get by with an ordinary scythe. And not harm the ecology. For the various poisons sprayed over the "plots" destroy the entire grass cover. Animals and insects perish. The already poor pasture is turned into sterile land. What can be done there?

Botanists are now developing new specially targeted herbicides and selecting for hemp a "cantankerous" and unaccommodating neighbor from the plant world. But this work could drag on for several years. For too long drug addiction was not officially recognized as a phenomenon. And now that we have finally found within ourselves the strength to make this "discovery," our impotence has been exposed. What we need is not half-measures but cardinal measures. At the intermediate stage, while science is seeking a way out of the impasse, we need to make full use of all the means available today.

Donbass Commemorates Christian Millenium

AU2908180888 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 26 Aug 88 p 3

[Unattributed report: "On the Millenium of Christianity in Rus"]

[Text] The bells in the churches and parishes of Voroshilovgrad-Donetsk Diocese announced the beginning of religious ceremonies in the Donbass to commemorate the millenium of the Christianization of Rus. A liturgy and a thanksgiving service were celebrated on this occasion in the St. Nicholas Cathedral.

"And thus also our parishioners, representatives of one of the numerically strongest dioceses in the Ukraine, participated in an event of historic importance," said Sergiy, Metropolitan of Odessa and Kherson and administrator of Voroshilovgrad-Donetsk Diocese. "The millenium is being commemorated at a time of restructuring and renewal in the entire society on the basis of democratization, at a time when the church has obtained the opportunity to make its contribution toward this process.

"The joys of our state are the church's joys, and the sorrows of our state are the church's sorrows. Our believers have welcomed restructuring, and most of them participate in accelerating the socioeconomic development of the Donbass. Neither are peace-making activities alien to them. This year alone they have given thousands of rubles to the Soviet Peace Fund, the Soviet Culture Fund, and the Soviet Children's Fund named after V.I. Lenin. We also have helped those affected by the floods in Georgia."

The participants in the ceremonies laid wreathes at the monument to the soldiers who liberated the Donbass.

A RATAU correspondent was told in the Council for the Affairs of Religions under the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers that the millenium of Christianity in Rus was commemorated in all the 14 dioceses of the Orthodox Church of Rus which are active in the Ukraine.

Economic

First Airline Cooperative Formed in Latvia

LD3008094588 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 30 Aug 88

[Text] Riga August 30 TASS—TASS correspondent Olgert Alants reports:

The Soviet Aeroflot air company, one of the world's largest, has for the first time got a competitor inside the country. This was promoted by the leaders of the state-run Civil Aviation Board of Latvia (a Soviet Baltic republic) and the 'Engineer' scientific and technical cooperative firm that signed an agreement today on the establishment of a joint enterprise, the Avialat. The newly established company is to promote fuller satisfaction of the demand in the country for the transporation of passengers and cargoes by air.

Economists found out preliminary that the air transport workers have a large reserve for broadening the scope of transportation services which they can render to leaseholders. To tell the truth, a shortage of aircraft fuel has been felt in the Soviet Union of late.

Under the agreement the Civil Aviation Board will provide the partner with industrial and other premises and ensure the operation of aircraft and equipment which are leased to the cooperative. The Civil Aviation Board also assumes responsibility for the safety and protection of labour, for which it will receive part of profit. The 'Engineer' cooperative will have a number of organisational and commercial concerns: a search for customers, assistance to them in the preparation of cargo for transportation, and in the escort and marketing of cargoes.

The Avialat has also decided to open a travel bureau which will begin to offer tours and services to clients. It is also planned to organise international transportation the requirement for which now grows, considering Latvia's expanding foreign economic relations.

The radical economic reform being effected in the Soviet Union opens up wide opportunities for mutually beneficial contacts between the state-run and cooperative sectors of the economy. This year alone, about 20 state-run enterprises of Latvia have concluded commercial agreements with cooperatives.

Impact of Restructuring on Foreign Trade

PM2908141588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 88 Second Edition p 4

[Candidate of Economic Sciences A. Ivashchenko article under the rubric "Discussion Platform": "What Hinders Mercury. Foreign Trade on Paths of Restructuring"]

[Text] The development of foreign economic ties and the search for the optimum ways to implement them and for a management mechanism—this is one of the urgent problems in restructuring the country's economy. By the mid-eighties the stagnation phenomena in the foreign economic sphere had acquired concentrated expression. Increased turnover had become an end in itself. Under conditions of a shortage of competitive machine and technical output and finished products in the country there was a steady increase in exports of irreplaceable mineral resources—energy carriers—which went a considerable way toward covering food imports.

The consequence was an extremely unfavorable foreign trade structure: monocultural exports based on energy carriers (54.4 percent in 1984) and an unjustifiably large proportion of food among imports (22.5 percent). Although imports of machinery and equipment were

maintained at a high level (30-37 percent of all imports), the most modern equipment was not always purchased, imports were primarily channeled not into the machine-building complex but into other production sectors, and many sectors could not "digest" the purchased equipment. At the beginning of the eighties uninstalled imported equipment to the approximate value of R5 billion had accumulated in warehouses alone, with a particularly large amount at the Ministries of the Chemical Industry and Ferrous Metallurgy.

Foreign trade ties with developed capitalist countries were in a complex state because of the appreciably greater dependence of exports on deliveries of energy carriers and the excess of imports over exports for a number of years.

Enterprises had no interest in deliveries for export, despite the resolutions adopted. A semblance of well-being was maintained until the mid-eighties by preferential growth in the prices of raw materials on world markets. The fall in the prices of energy carriers in recent years and the exhaustion of easily accessible resources led to an appreciable reduction in foreign trade turnover in 1986-1987. An export-import imbalance arose. This was one of the reasons for the slowing down of the national income growth rate compared with the planned rate and had an adverse effect on the entire national economic complex.

The 27th CPSU Congress advanced the task of making active use of foreign economic activity to accelerate development. To this end it was proposed to restructure foreign trade, impart a more efficient nature to exports and imports, and change the organizational structures and the economic mechanism.

A key element of the transformations is the granting to direct producers and local organs the right to enter the foreign market. As a result, enterprises may now establish direct production and trade ties with foreign partners—which helps to accelerate scientific and technical progress, develop integration processes, and enhance the efficiency of social production and foreign economic cooperation. As trade in machine and technical goods increases, there is a growing need for equipment to be serviced by the producers. In the final analysis, the competitiveness of machinery and equipment is increasingly dependent on service. Finally, the entry of enterprises onto other countries' markets under conditions of economic accountability [khozraschet] could make them use economic methods to raise their product quality to world standards and accelerate the renewal of the goods produced. At the same time, the mobilization of local export resources is improving.

The measures taken to liberalize the monopoly on foreign trade have already produced some positive results. In particular, in 1987 the share of machinery and equipment in exports increased to 15.5 percent, while that of energy carriers fell to 46.5 percent, the proportion of food in imports fell to 16.1 percent, and the balance of trade with developed capitalist countries was in the black. However, the transformations implemented played only a secondary role in these advances. Changes in world market conditions, the fall in the prices of raw materials and food, and the enforced reduction in imports because of a shortage of foreign currency were of determining significance. Therefore, it is necessary to examine the main reasons why the current reform of foreign economic activity has not yet led to a radical improvement in the situation.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Additional Measures To Improve Foreign Economic Activity Under the New Management Conditions" points out that there has been an increase in the manifold nature of decisionmaking. The considerable increase in the number of ministries and departments which have entered the foreign market has, in practice, resulted in the emergence of another managerial link in foreign economic ties. Administrative bureaucratic apparatuses in the foreign trade sphere have been duplicated (large export or export-import administrations have been organized practically everywhere). Ministries have acquired their own "foreign trade bodies" [vneshtorgiki], which fetter enterprises' initiative and increase overheads. An additional new organ has been set up—the State Foreign Economic Commission, which fulfills coordination and leadership functions. And control has been entrusted to the new Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, formed in 1988 on the basis of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, which is also to ensure the enhanced coordination of the work of ministries, enterprises, and organizations in their foreign economic activity. An important role in observing all-state interests is allocated to the Main Administration of State Customs Control recently created under the USSR Council of Ministers. Sectoral ministries fulfill the functions of directing and monitoring the activity of subordinate enterprises. But, as the saying goes, too many cooks spoil the broth.

The experience of the first 2 years of work under conditions of restructuring the foreign economic sphere confirms the correctness of the Leninist concept of the foreign trade monopoly, which was clearly formulated by L.B. Krasin, people's commissar for foreign trade: "The foreign trade monopoly consists of the fact that the right to conduct foreign trade...belongs exclusively to the state in the person of the organ that exists especially for this...while actual foreign trade operations are carried out only under the control and supervision of the People's Foreign Trade Commissariat and its organs."

It seems that in order to enhance the efficiency of the state's regulating and monitoring function and reduce the bureaucratic managerial apparatus under modern conditions it would be expedient to unite all questions of the regulation, coordination, and monitoring of the foreign economic sphere in a single state organ, freeing it

as far as possible from purely commercial activity and, at the same time, eliminating the newly appeared "foreign trade bodies" and various artificial managerial formations. At the same time, with regard to questions of foreign economic activity, the double subordination of enterprises which have acquired the right to enter the foreign market may be necessary temporarily, as has been done in Bulgaria and Hungary.

Another major braking force is the maintenance of the former administrative-edict approaches to the management of foreign economic ties. The result is the growing complexity of the entire process of managing and monitoring the foreign economic sphere under conditions of the increased multistage nature of management and the growing number of subjects [subyekty] in this sphere. It is appropriate here to recall the significance that V.I. Lenin attached to the question of recording and control. With regard to foreign trade the state must have strictly systematized and accurate current data on what has been exported and imported into the country, how much, by whom, to where, and at what prices, and on whether this activity accords with the national economic interests and plans. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure the effective functioning of customs statistics without delay.

The granting to enterprises of a certain freedom to choose goods, markets, and partners presupposes and necessitates the simultaneous introduction of appropriate levers to control and regulate export and import operations. At present there are virtually no such levers corresponding to the stage of liberalization and economic accountability. The lack of them could lead to phenomena such as selling goods at unjustifiably low prices, buying them at overstated prices, importing products that could be produced in our country, mutual competition, and so forth. Such things have already happened. In 1987, for example, the "Sovrybflot" All-Union Association violated contract pledges with the "Plodimeks" Joint-Stock Company, whose chief shareholders are the "Soyuzplodimport" and "Prodintorg" All-Union Associations, and independently entered the British market to sell caviar, doing so at a price an average of 10 percent below the "Plodimeks" prices. The Izhorskiy Machine-Building Plant sold unique thick cold-rolled sheets at prices considerably below the world market prices at which the same sheets are regularly imported into the Soviet Union. The Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry purchased minibuses from Japan even though we produce them. Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant spent R60,000 abroad to acquire hockey players' equipment.

Poor control over barter operations represents a special problem. Their significance in Soviet foreign trade has recently increased appreciably. This is connected with the fact that with ordinary exports enterprises receive currency deductions which are, as a rule, 10-30 percent of the proceeds (between 2 and 50 percent in certain sectors), while with barter the exporters keep the proceeds in full. For a number of reasons in barter Soviet suppliers delve little into questions such as prices, the provision of spare parts for imported equipment, and the technical standard of the products being purchased. Although barter is permitted primarily with socialist countries, a large proportion of the products being exported are goods which could be sold for freely convertible currency, and in a number of cases they are resold to firms in Western countries. This leads to losses for our country on barter deals.

This year, for example, the Italian firm of Risocomex offered the "Eksportkhleb" All-Union Association 30,000 tonnes of Soviet (!) rice. It had acquired it in Austria, to where the commodity had evidently been sold by a Yugoslav firm which had gotten it by way of barter from a rice-hulling plant in Odessa Oblast as compensation for equipment delivered. You can only guess at how overstated the price of the equipment was or how low the price of the rice was in the barter deal if it was offered to the Soviet Foreign Trade Association at very advantageous prices, even after passing through the hands of several middlemen. This example shows that it would be expedient to allow Soviet foreign trade organizations to acquire, as if it were an import [v schet importa], the above-plan output of enterprises and organizations which they want to export, with payment of 100 percent of the cost in currency at world prices. This will make it possible not only to avoid losses in barter prices but also to gain on transport costs.

According to a report in the journal TEXTILWIRTSCHAFT, in 1988 the Austrian firm of Kraus resold on the FRG market at giveaway prices Soviet bed linen which had also been obtained by way of barter. Soviet cotton fabrics acquired by a socialist country in a barter deal were sold for a song in the United States.

There are many such examples of contradictions between the individual interests of individual enterprises and all-state interests, and their numbers are growing. These interests can be reconciled with the help of appropriate trade-political and economic levers, which must be elaborated as quickly as possible by a corresponding unified organ to regulate and monitor foreign economic ties jointly with the USSR Gosplan, the Ministry of Finance, and the Gosbank on the basis of world practice and our country's experience in the twenties. A system of management and control levers could be based on trade-political instruments embracing elements such as the setting of quotas, the granting of licenses, harmonized customs nomenclature, the customs tariff, regulations governing the origin of goods, standardization, and also the foreign trade currency rate, the taxation setup, subsidies, and other measures.

Another force slowing down the restructuring of foreign economic relations is the inadequate elaboration of specific forms of organizing foreign economic ties and the delay over introducing full economic accountability for foreign trade enterprises. Here it is useful to take

account of world experience, the conditions of actual market competition, and the specific nature of the main groups of goods and their markets.

The majority of markets for mass goods, which currently occupy the chief place in USSR commodity turnover, are dominated by large multicommodity trading companies. In addition to trading, they process or prepare goods and possess a network of warehouses and sales and finance firms and a fleet. At the same time, in markets for products with a large degree of differentiation of quality or which require technical servicing, export operations are frequently tackled directly by the manufacturing companies. But even with regard to these goods small-scale producers, as well as large ones when selling in countries with small sales volumes, resort to the services of middlemen.

With the organizational transformations in our country it is evidently expedient to gear ourselves both to transferring foreign trade functions to large enterprises and to changing the status of the existing all-union foreign trade associations. Thus they would be turned into large multicommodity trading and trading-industrial groups embracing a strong trading company, enterprises for finishing and processing goods, warehouses, and buying-and-selling firms in the USSR and abroad, which have full freedom to choose trade methods and which are not limited by the list of the goods and services which they can use when concluding deals.

Economic accountability must also take account of the special features of commodity markets. The existing proposals for economic accountability in foreign trade envisage commission remuneration as the only source of income for all-union foreign trade associations. However, this form of finance, particularly in trade in goods with sharp and considerable price fluctuations, cannot give the all-union foreign trade associations an economic interest in selling as dearly as possible and buying as cheaply as possible. In addition, the commission does not encourage all-union foreign trade associations to seek new sources of currency receipts. Such additional sources of income could be provided by receipts from operations in the markets of third countries; by part of the income from importing raw materials into the country, processing them, and subsequently exporting the semimanufactures and finished products made from them, and so forth.

The enhanced effectiveness of the economic accountability of enterprises which have acquired the right to enter the foreign market is determined to a great degree by the size of currency deductions and the level of prices. In order to develop exports of currency-intensive products it would be correct to introduce, in addition to the fixed rate of deductions, extra deductions which would completely cover the difference between the prices for specified and basic quality. The objective difference between domestic and foreign trade prices, which has an adverse effect on the development of direct ties and other promising forms of cooperation, can be overcome not only by bringing domestic prices into line with world prices but also with the help of more active regulation of the currency rate, taxes, and other economic levers.

The overcoming of braking forces in the foreign economic sphere will make for its dynamic development and improve this whole complex.

Agricultural

Nikonov's 22-24 Aug Uzbekistan Visit Reported

PM2908153388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 88 Second Edition p w

[TASS report: "Agro-Industrial Complex: On the Way of New Economic Relations"]

[Text] Tashkent, 24 Aug—V.P. Nikonov [member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee] was in Uzbekistan 22-24 August. He visited a whole series of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and agro-industrial complex enterprises in Fergana, Samarkand, and Tashkent Oblasts.

During meetings and talks with rural workers, the problems of the intensive development of agro-industrial production and its transition to the principles of cost covering [samookupayemost] and self-financing were comprehensively discussed. The need to extensively introduce the family, link, and team contracts and work on lease terms was particularly stressed.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee met with cotton growers at the "Kommunizm" kolkhoz in Kuvinskiy Rayon and the "Fergana" and "Leningrad" kolkhozes in Tashlakskiy Rayon. Their discussion concerned the introduction of cotton and alfalfa crop rotation, which would make it possible to increase production not only of raw cotton but of high-protein feed crops without which the further improvement of stockraising is impossible; the ever-increasing role of specialists and farm leaders in introducing scientific achievements into everyday practice was stressed.

In Kattakurganskiy Rayon V.P. Nikonov familiarized himself in detail with the work of a large stockraising complex whose collective works on contract and is fattening steers weighing more than 500 kg.

At the "Anor" sovkhoz, which specializes in growing pomegranates, the "Pastdargom" and "Pakhta" orchard and vineyard sovkhozes, and the kolkhoz named for Karl Marx, V.P. Nikonov inquired about the production, storage, and sale of fruit and berries.

At the Margilan Silk Combine the conversation with leaders and specialists concerned the creation of small shops for primary cocoon processing at kolkhozes and sovkhozes on cooperative principles.

During the meetings and conversations between the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the republic's agro-industrial workers a great deal of attention was also devoted to the problems of providing facilities for the countryside and resolving all social issues.

V.P. Nikonov was accompanied on his tour of the republic by R.N. Nishanov, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, and G.Kh. Kadyrov, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers.

Harvesting, Plowing, Sowing Figures Cited

PM2908182188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Aug 88 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "USSR State Committee for Statistics Report"]

[Text] The USSR State Committee for Statistics reports that as of 22 August grain and pulse crops had been harvested on 71.6 million hectares and threshed on 67 million hectares. Corn has been harvested on 4.5 million hectares.

Fall plowland is being prepared in areas where the harvest has already been gathered in. Some 14.8 million hectares of fall plowland have already been plowed against a plan figure of 111.2 million hectares.

August is a time for new sowings—of winter crops. It is planned to grow winter crops on almost 40 million hectares, 8 million of which have already been sown.

Scientific

Details on Start of Soviet-Afghan Space Flight

LD2908163688 Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 29 Aug 88

[Text] Baykonur Cosmodrome August 29 TASS—TASS special correspondent Valentin Ovcharov reports:

The 14th international expedition went to outer space from the Soviet Baykonur cosmodrome this morning. The crew of the Soyuz TM-6 spaceship are pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR Colonel Vladimir Lyakhov, physician Valeriy Polyakov and research cosmonaut, citizen of the Republic of Afghanistan Captain Mohmand 'Abdullah Ahad. The spaceship is to have a link-up on August 31 with the orbital station Mir, with Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov carrying out scientific work aboard it for the ninth month now.

Eventful times fly fast. As many as 63 crews made flights aboard Soviet manned spaceships since 1961, including Vostok spaceships—6, Voskhod—2, Soyuz—37, Soyuz T—14, Soyuz TM—4. Cosmonauts worked aboard six durable orbital Salyut stations, replaced by the third generation of such near-earth laboratories Mir. A total of 78 cosmonauts participated in orbital flights aboard Soviet manned spaceships, 65 of them—Soviet. Vladimir Dzhanibekov flew five missions to outer space! 16 of his colleagues—three, 19—two, and 29—one.

And now an envoy of the friendly country, Mohmand 'Abdullah Ahad, undertook a mission to outer space. There is much in common in his destiny and the destiny of his comrade. Muhammed Dauran's father and two brothers lost their lives, defending its gains.

They came to the star city a little over half a year ago and there they met real friends who generously shared with them knowledge and experience. Scores of specialists of the cosmonaut training centre and other organizations spared neither time nor effort to help them master the profession of a cosmonaut. Real aces of cosmonautics proved to be next to them in crews. Vladimir Lyakhov made two flights which took a total of 325 days. He was commander of the Soviet-Mongolian and the second Soviet-Bulgarian stand-in crews. Anatoliy Berezovoi worked in 1982 with Valentin Lebedev for 211 days aboard the Salyut-7 station, a real record for that time. And in 1983 he headed the Soviet-Indian stand-in crew.

Valeriy Polyakov's and German Arzamazov's many years are linked with space research. Both are candidates of sciences (medicine) and their scientific interests have long been related to problems of the influence of weightlessness on human organism. The following fact testifies to their devotion to the cause, selflessness and courage. Valeriy and German proposed that a major experiment...on themselves be held, which will possibly appreciably broaden our knowledge of weightlessness. Bone marrow samples were taken from both before the flight. And this painful and risky operation has to be repeated upon Polyakov's return to earth, to make a comparison of objective indicators. Valeriy will stay aboard the Mir station together with V. Titov and M. Manarov to take under thorough control their health and to carry out a broad range of medical explorations. If Yuriy Romanenko is now the only man on earth who worked for 326 days in outer space, the "oceans" [call sign for Mir crew] may become the first men to stay in near-earth orbit for a whole year.

An interesting talk on the forthcoming flight, on cosmonautics and international cooperation in that area was held on Sunday night when a state delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan, led by member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Minister of Communications Muhammed Aslam Watanjar, arrived at Baykonur, accompanied by ambassador of the Republic of Afghanistan in the USSR, Muhammadullah Safi. Having highly assessed the political and economic significance of the expedition, Muhammed Aslam Watanjar said that it would help further consolidate friendship between the two peoples the beginning to which was laid as far back as 1921.

The materials of future space photography will help Afghan specialists solve many problems linked with exploration of natural resources of the country, he said.

Flight Experiments Outlined

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[Text] Moscow August 29 TASS—The launch of the international Soviet-Afghan space crew this morning is yet another landmark in international cooperation in orbit in the interests of peace and progress. The Soviet Soyuz TM-6 spaceship is manned by Soviet pilot cosmonaut Vladimir Lyakhov, physician Vladimir Polyakov and Afghan research cosmonaut Mohmand 'Abdullah Ahad.

Nine joint flights involving representatives of the countries of the socialist community have been made under the Intercosmos program. Bulgaria took part in orbital expeditions twice. There were joint flights involving representatives of India and France. The second joint Soviet-French space expedition is being prepared.

Each flight enriches world cosmonautics with new scientific research and achievements. Twenty-four experiments are to be carried out on board the Soviet long-duration orbital research complex Mir during the Soviet-Afghan space flight.

These will be, firstly, the remote sensing of the earth with a view to obtaining materials of space photography of the territory of Afghanistan from board the orbital station Mir, including that of high-mountain and difficult-of-access areas. One of the ultimate purposes of research is to determine hitherto unknown ore-bearing zones and structures promising the presence of oil, gas and ore.

A series of medical research includes scientific experiments which will be performed during the stay of the Soviet-Afghan crew on board the complex Mir. They are also being carried out in terrestrial conditions before and after the Afghan cosmonaut's flight. The experiments will also involve the hosts of the obital complex, Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, who have been working in orbit for more than eight months now. They are now preparing to meet the international crew.

The purpose of the labyrinth experiment is to find out the mechanisms of a space form of motion sickness which develops in zero gravity and greatly upsets the normal life and work capacity of cosmonauts, and to look for means to prevent it.

Work on Linkup Orbit Begins

LD2908202788 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1500 GMT on 29 August carries a 2.5-minute report by correspondent Vladimir Bezyayev on the activities of the cosmonauts on the first day of the joint Soviet-Afghan space mission.

Bezyayev talks to former cosmonaut Aleksandr Pavlovich Aleksandrov about today's flight schedule. Bezyayev notes that intense work began immediately after the spacecraft entered orbit, and he asks Aleksandrov to explain.

Aleksandrov says that despite the perfect launch, it was necessary to start work on the transfer to the linkup orbit. He says: "Today the crew's main task, after checking the systems, is to carry out a two-command long-distance approach rendezvous."

Aleksandrov then goes on to explain that the cosmonauts will have their evening meal and will have to be asleep by 1700 Moscow time because they will rise on 30 August at 0200 Moscow time. Aleksandrov explains that the entire rendezvous is determined by a trajectory scheme according to which commands marking the transfer from one orbit to another are issued at certain times. Hence the wake-up call in the middle of the night is determined by an intermediate command that must be issued in order to form the link-up orbit, says Aleksandrov, noting that this night work schedule will continue virtually until the moment of docking with the station. He adds that after docking, the cosmonauts will switch to an ordinary schedule, starting work at 0800.

Bedzyayev concludes that the calculated docking time of TM-6 and the Mir space station is 0950 on 31 August [0550 GMT].

Flight Parameters Given

LD3008091988 Moscow TASS in English 0908 GMT 30 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—The Soviet TM-6 spaceship, manned by the cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov, Valeriy Polyakov and Mohmand 'Abdullah Ahad, is continuing its flight.

The cosmonauts made scheduled operations to check the functioning of the spaceship's systems and air-tightness of its compartments. Manoeuvres were carried out for a further approach to the scientific research complex Mir.

Judging by the results of trajectory measurements, the parameters of the Soyuz TM-6 orbit are now as follows:
the maximum distance from the surface of the earth—262 km,
the minimum distance from the surface of the earth—238 km,
the period of revolution—89.4 minutes,
the inclination of the orbit is—51.6 degrees.

Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov are busy with preparations to meet the international Soviet-Afghan crew.

A number of a series of photography and spectrometry of the USSR's territory near Dushanbe, Frunze, and in the area of the Toktogul water reservoir were made by the cosmonauts on August 27 and 28 within the framework of the international aerospace Tien-Shan-Intercosmos-88 experiment programme.

They carried out a regular cycle of astrophysical research with the use of the orbital observatory Roentgen. An X-ray source in the centre of the galaxy was an object of yesterday's observations.

According to the crews' reports and the data of telemetric information, the flights of the Soyuz TM-6 spaceship and the complex Mir are proceeding normally.

Siberian Institute Studies Aircraft Safety

LD2608224588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Aug 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] How is flight safety on our civil aviation aircraft ensured? Our correspondents report from Novosibirsk:

[Correspondent A. Sosnin] Who has never felt that sensation of overload while sitting in the comfortable seat of an aircraft as it takes off? Yet it is nevertheless hard to imagine what loads the entire aircraft structure actually bears. And where is the guarantee that a treacherous crack will not appear in the light metal?

Such guarantees are provided here, in the Siberian scientific research Institute of Aviation, the country's main center for testing the durability and service life of serial aircraft. This is the first television reportage from the institute in the 40 years it has been in existence. Glasnost is penetrating even these formerly hermetically closed scientific institutions.

We are at the stand where an Il-76 transport aircraft is being tested. Tests began even before this type of aircraft went into service. This is what has been done for years now. The wings are slowly swung, as is the tail unit. Loads are applied to over 100 points on the aircraft. A computer program simulates the aircraft's take-off run, take-off, flight altitude, and landing hundreds and thousands of times. Sensors take indices from 3,800 points: What is happening to the metal; what is the limit of fatigue of this or that structure?

[E.I. Ozhekhovskiy, candidate of technical sciences] An aircraft is tested for fatigue or service load for several years, for 3-4 years and more, but we nevertheless keep ahead of the flights of the aircraft pool so that our results can always be used in serial production and so that these results always have a positive effect on the results of flights.

[Sosnin] Forty types of aircraft, the large majority of all our postwar aviation, have been given authorization to fly at the Siberian Institute. Here, too, a sentence was passed against many of them: service life exhausted, time to stop flying.